This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

Allen . Sketches of the Town of
Northborough, Mass. 1826 .

LIS
13385
5.10

3 2044 010 532 927

US 13385.5.10

HARVARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY

COLLECTION ON THE HISTORY OF
THE UNITED STATES NAVY

. . .

GIFT OF
GARDNER WELD ALLEN
(CLASS OF 1877)
OF BOSTON

OCTOBER 22, 1915

TOPOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL

SKETCHES

OF THE

TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH,

WITH THE

EARLY HISTORY OF

MARLBOROUGH,

IN THE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

FURNISHED FOR THE

WORCESTER MAGAZINE.

BY REV. JOSEPH ALLEN,
PASTOR OF THE CHURCH IN NORTHBOROUGH, AND MEMBER OF THE WORCESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WORCESTER:
PUBLISHED BY W. LINCOLN & C. C. BALDWIN.
CHARLES GRIFFIN.....PRINTER.
1826.

U.S 13385.5.10

864

HARVARD COLLEGE
June 10. 1936
LIBRARY

Dr Gardner W Allen

HISTORY OF NORTHBOROUGH.

NORTHBOROUGH, though one of the youngest and smallest incorporated towns in the County of Worcester, was, for nearly 50 years, prior to the date of its incorporation, a part of Westborough; first as part of an undivided whole, and then as a separate precinct or parish. This carries us back to the year 1717, before which time, Westborough itself, including Northborough, belonged to the large and ancient town of Marlborough. Northborough then, as being included in Marlborough, may lay claim to considerable antiquity. Marlborough was incorporated in 1660, only about 30 years after the commencement of the Massachusetts Colony. The stream of emigration may easily be traced back from this, which was for many years a frontier settlement, bordering upon the unexplored wilderness, to the fountain head. The settlement in Marlborough was commenced four years before the date of its incorporation, by emigrants from Sudbury, which was older by about 20 years than Marlborough, having been incorporated in 1638. The next step carries us back to Concord, which was purchased of the natives and incorporated in 1635.*

The next step brings us to Watertown, where a settlement was made in 1630, the same year that Boston began to be built. It was in this year that a large number of emigrants arrived from England, which served greatly to enlarge and strengthen the Colony, then in its infancy. The oldest town in the Massachusetts Colony is Salem, where a settlement was commenced in 1628, eight years after the landing of our fathers at Plymouth.

* 1. Mass. Hist. Col. Vol. I.

Thus we see that within the short space of 30 years from the first planting of this Colony, the wilderness had been explored, and a permanent settlement effected, by our enterprising forefathers, in the ancient town of Marlborough, which then included Westborough, Southborough, and Northborough, now within the limits of Worcester County.

It will not therefore be improper to prefix to the history of this town some account of the first settlement and early history of the Plantation at Marlborough.

The following petition was presented to the General Court in May, 1656.

"To the Hon. Governor, Dep. Governor, Magistrates and Deputies of the General Court now assembled in Boston."

" The humble petition of several of the Inhabitants of Sudbury, whose names are hereunder written, humbly sheweth ; that whereas your petitioners have lived divers years in Sudbury, and God hath beene pleased to increase our children, which are now divers of them grown to man's estate, and wee, many of us, grown into years, so as that wee should bee glad to see them settled before the Lord take us away from hence, as also God having given us some considerable quantity of cattle, so that wee are so streightened that wee cannot so comfortably subsist as could bee desired ; and some of us having taken some pains to view the country ; wee have found a place which lyeth westward, about eight miles from Sudbury, which wee conceive might bee comfortable for our subsistence :

"It is therefore the humble request of your Petitioners to this Hon'd Court, that you would bee pleased to grant unto us ( ) eight miles square, or so much land as may containe to eight miles square, for to make a plantation.

"If it shall please this Hon'd Court to grant our petition, it is farther than the request of your petitioners to this Hon'd Court, that you will bee pleased to appoint Mr. Thomas Danforth or Liesten[nl] Fisher to lay out the bounds of the Plantation; and wee shall satisfy those whom this Hon'd Court shall please to employ in it. So apprehending this weighty occasion, wee shall no farther trouble this Hon'd Court, but shall ever pray for your happinesse."

Edmond Rice,	Thomas King,	William Ward,
John How,*	John Bent, Sen'r.	John Maynard,

* According to a tradition handed down in the family, the first English person that came to reside in Marlborough, was John How, son of a How, of Watertown, supposed to be John How, Esq. who came from Warwickshire, in

John Woods, Edward Rice, John Ruddocke,
Richard Newton, Peter Bent, Henry Rice,
Thomas Goodenow.

"That this is a true copy of the original petition presented to the General Court, May, 1656, left on file and thereto compared, is

Attested, per EDWARD RAWSON, *Sec'ry.*"

To this petition the following answer was made.

At a General Court held in Boston, May 14, 1756.

"In answer to the petition of the aforesaid inhabitants of Sudbury, the Court judgeth it meete to grant them a proportion of land of six miles, or otherwise, in some convenient form equivalent thereunto, at the discretion of the committee in the place desired, provided it hinder no former grant, that there bee a Towne settled with twenty or more families within three years, so as an able ministry may bee there maintained. And it is ordered that Mr. Edward Jackson, Capt. Eleazer Lusher, Ephraim Child, with Mr. Thomas Danforth, or Liesten[n]l Fisher, shall bee, and hereby are appointed as a committee to lay out the bounds thereof, and make return to the next Court of Election, or else the grant to bee void.

"This is a true copy taken out of the Court's Books of Records, as Attests EDWARD RAWSON, *Secr'y.*"

England, and who, as appears from a record in the possession of Mr. Adam How, of Sudbury, also a descendant of John, was himself the son of John How, of Hodinhull, and connected with the family of Lord Charles How, Earl of Lancaster, in the reign of Charles I.

Mr. How came from Watertown to Marlborough, built a cabin a little to the east of the Indian Planting field, where his descendants lived for many generations. By his prudence and kindness, he gained the good will and confidence of his savage neighbors, who accordingly made him the umpire in all their differences.

The following is related as one of the verdicts of this second Solomon. Two Indians, whose corn fields were contiguous, disputed about the possession of a pumpkin, which grew on a vine, that had transgressed the limits of the field in which it was planted. The vine was planted in one field; the pumpkin grew in the other. The dispute grew warm, and might have led to serious consequences, had it not occurred to them to refer the matter in debate to the arbitration of the white man, their neighbor. Mr. How is accordingly sent for, who after having given a patient hearing to both parties, directs them to bring him a knife, with which he divides the pumpkin into two equal parts, giving half to each. Both parties extol the equity of the judge, and readily acquiesce in the decision, pleased, no doubt, quite as much with the manner in which the thing was done, as in admiration of the justice of the deed.

The descendants of John How are very numerous in Marlborough, and in the towns in the vicinity. There are 28 of the name of How on the list of voters, in Marlborough, for the present year.

Col. Thomas How was a son of the above, who, for many years, was one of the leading men in the town. John How died sometime before 1686, as appears by a deed of his son Josiah to Thomas, of that date. Rev. Perley How, of Surry, N. H. was a descendant of John, and of Col. Thomas How.

The Plantation was accordingly soon commenced in the neighborhood of Ockoocangansett, (the Indian name of the hill back of the old Meeting House in Marlborough,) and thence extending to Whipsuppenicke, (a hill about a mile southeasterly of the former,) and the neighboring parts. By this name, Whipsuppenicke, or Whipsufferadge, as it was sometimes written, the English Plantation of Marlborough was known, till its incorporation, in 1660.

Of the Indian Plantation at Marlborough, called, from the hill abovenamed, Ockoocangansett, some account will be given hereafter.

A plan of the English plantation was made in May, 1667, by Samuel Andrews, surveyor, which was approved by the Deputies, 17th 3mo. 1667. WM. TORREY, *Clerk.*

Consented to by the Magistrates. EDWARD RAWSON, *Sec'y.*

This plan was made on parchment on a scale of two inches to a mile, and is now in the hands of Mr. Silas Gates of Marlborough.

The plantation contained by admeasurement 29,419 acres, which, with the 6000 acres reserved for the Indians, of which we shall presently speak, amounted to 35,419 acres. The Indian planting field, on Ockoocangansett, the hill back of where the old meeting house stood, was included within the bounds of the English plantation, and formed a square containing about two hundred acres. From the northwestern angle of this field the boundary line between the Indian plantation on the east, and the English plantation on the west, extends three miles north, seven degrees west, to a point a little beyond the river Assabett*. From this point the boundary line runs seven miles west, twenty five degrees south, (cutting off what is now the northwest angle of Northborough, and which forms what are called the *New Grants.*) Thence five miles south-southeast, to the south west extremity of the plantation; thence two miles and three-fourths of a mile east, nine degrees north, leading into Cedar swamp; thence southeast, two hundred and fifty six rods on Sudbury River; thence two miles and three quarters, due east; thence two miles and one hundred and twenty rods northeast, thirteen degrees north; thence three

*This name is written and spoken variously by different persons. In the report of the Canal Commissioners presented at the recent session of the Legislature of this State, it is written *Elsebeth*, and is supposed to be a corruption of *Elizabeth*. By some aged persons, it is called *Elsebeth*; in Whitney's Hist. *Assabet*. In the earliest records of Marlborough, however, it is almost uniformly written with a final *h*, *Assabeth* or *Assabeth*. If either of the two last letters are omitted, it should probably be the *t*. In which case the name would be *Assabeth*.

hundred and forty eight rods north, seventeen degrees east; thence one mile and three fourths of a mile due north, which reaches to the Indian line; then three miles, due west, on this line, which completes the boundaries of the English plantation.

It would seem, from the above account, that the proprietors exceeded the limits of their grant by more than 6000 acres. We are not to conclude, however, that they acted fraudulently in this business; since it appears that the draft of the plantation was presented to the General Court for their acceptance, and approved by the Deputies and Magistrates.

The form of the plantation was evidently regulated by a regard to the surface and soil. Thus the boundary lines on the north and west included all the meadows on the Assabeth, west of the Indian plantation, and the extensive intervale, including several large meadows and cedar swamps, which runs through nearly the whole extent of Northborough and Westborough. The boundaries on the south and east were also fixed with the same sagacity and foresight.

It is said that the meadows, at the first settlement of our country, produced much larger crops of grass, of a much better quality, than at the present day. This circumstance, together with the difficulty of subduing the uplands, will account for the eagerness manifested by the first settlers to possess a good supply of meadow grounds.*

The first meeting of the proprietors of the English plantation, was holden 25th of the VIIth month (September) 1656.†

In 1657, the following eight names are found among the proprietors, in addition to the thirteen original petitioners above mentioned, making up the number of twenty one.

* It appears from the early records of Marlborough, that for many years after its incorporation, the town was greatly infested by wolves and rattlesnakes.

In a single year, (1683) the town paid a bounty for no fewer than *twenty three* wolves. In 1680, the following record was made. "Voted, to raise thirteen men *to go out to cil rattelsnakes*, eight to Cold Harbour-ward, and so to the other place they cal boston, (now the northwestern corner of Westborough) and five to Stoney Brook-ward, to the places thereabout. John Brigham to cal out seven with him to the first, and Joseph Newton four with him, to the latter, and they were to have two shillings apiece per day, paid out of a town rates."

† "Sept. 25th. 1656. Upon amitinge of the petitioners apoynted to take sum course to lay out the plantation granted to several inhabitants of Sudbury, it was ordered that all that doe take up lottes in that plantation shall pay all publique charges that shall arise upon that plantation, according to their house lottes and to be resident there in two years or set in a man that the town shall aprove one, or else too loose their lotts; but if God shall take away any man by death, he have liberty to give his lott to whom he will."

William Kerly,	Samuel Rice,	Peter King,
John Rediat,	John Johnson,	Christopher Banister.
Solomon Johnson,	Thomas Rice,	

"At a meeting of the proprietors of this plantation the 26th of Xber, (December) 1659.

"It is ordered that all such as lay clayme to any interest in this new plantation at Whipsufferadge, (by the Indians called Whipsuppenicke) are to perfect their house lots by the 25th of March next insueing, or else to loose all their interest in the aforesaid plantation."

Agreeably to this order, thirty eight house lots, including one for a minister, and one for a smith, were set off, and granted to the proprietors, the 26th of Nov. 1660.

Besides the persons already mentioned, the following had house lots assigned to them, at this date.

Joseph Rice,	Richard Ward,	John Barrett,
John How, Jr.	Benjamin Rice,	Jos. Holmes,
Henry Kerley,	John Bellows,	Samuel How,
Richard Barns,	Abraham How,	Henry Axtell,
Andrew Belcher,	Tho. Goodenow, Jr.	John Newton.
Obediah Ward,	John Rutter,	

These thirty eight house lots, amounting in all to 992½ acres consisted of some of the best and most commodious tracts of land in Marlborough. They contained from fifty to fifteen acres each, according to the interest of the several proprietors in the plantation. The principal part of the land, which was not taken up for house lots, with the exception of Chauncey, (now Westborough and Northborough,) was left common (called *Cow Commons*) to be disposed of by subsequent grants.

The following boundaries were assigned to the *Cow Commons* in 1662.

"From John Alcocks line (now known by the name of *the Farm*) to Stoney Brook; thence up the brook to Crane Meadow, and so along to Stirrup Meadow Brook, and to be extended as the Brooke runs to Assibathe River, and down the said river till it comes to the Indian line. This is, and shall remain a perpetual Cow Common for the use of this town, never to bee altered without the consent of all the inhabitants and proprietors thereof at a full meeting; excepting four score acres of upland this town hath reserved within the aforesaid tract of land to accommodate some such desirable persons withall as need may require, opportunity present, and the town accept."

A vote was passed at a meeting of the proprietors in 1705, to divide the Cow Commons among the original proprietors and such as had acquired rights in the plantation, in proportion to the first grants.

So early as 1660, it appears that measures had been adopted by the proprietors of Marlborough, for the maintenance of public worship; and that Mr. William Brimsmead, afterwards ordained as their pastor, was employed as a preacher.

In the following year, they voted to build a house for their minister; and, in 1662, the frame of a house, with the house lot on which it stood, were granted to Wm. Brimsmead, Minister.*

In 1662, a rate was made of 12 pence per acre upon all house lots for building a Meeting House; and again, in 1664, of 3¼ pence per acre for finishing the house. This house, which was afterwards burnt by the Indians, stood on the old common, within the limits of the Indian planting field, which, Hutchinson says, "caused great disputes and discouragements."†

It appears from the following record, that the land on which the Meeting House was erected was afterwards purchased of an Indian, whose title to the land was probably disputed by his brethren of the Indian Plantation.

"1663, April 4. Anamaks, an Indian of Whipsuppenicke, for divers reasons and considerations, sold to John Ruddock and John How, for the use of the town of Marlborough, the land that the Meeting House now stands on—also the land for the highway on the fore side of said Meeting House, and so upon a square of ten feet, round about the said Meeting House." This land, with the addition of half an acre purchased in 1688, of Daniel, Samuel, and Nathaniel Gookin, sons of Maj. Gen. Daniel Gookin, of Cambridge, constitutes what is now the old common, the whole of which did

* The house built for Mr. Brimsmead stood on the lot of land west of Ockoocangansett, not far from the spot on which the old Meeting House was afterwards erected. There is a tradition that Mr. Brimsmead's house was set on fire by the Indians in King Philip's war, and that the flames communicated with the Meeting House, which was the occasion of its being burnt.

It may be interesting to the antiquary to learn the form and dimensions of a dwelling house erected more than 160 years since. It was 36 ft. by 18 ft. and 12½ ft. high between the joints. It had four windows in front, and two at the west end. It had besides two gables in front, 10 ft. wide and 8 ft. square, (projecting 8 ft.) with two small windows on the front side of the gables. It was built by contract for £15, to be paid in corn; one third wheat, one third rye, and one third Indian corn. Wheat at 4*s*. 6*d*. rye at 4*s*. and Indian corn at 3*s*. per bushel. For the payment of this sum, a rate was made of 7½ pence per acre upon all house lots in the Plantation.

† Hist. Col. I. p. 167.

not come into the possession of the town till 1706, when the half acre above mentioned was purchased by Abraham Williams and Joseph Rice, "for the use of the town, to set a Meeting House on."

Till 1675, nothing serious appears to have occurred to interrupt the prosperity of the inhabitants of this flourishing settlement. But their prosperity received a severe check in the war which now ensued. After the destruction of Lancaster, (Feb. 10, 1676, O. S.) a party of the enemy directed their course through Marlborough, where they committed some depredations, on their way to Sudbury and Medfield, in the latter of which places nearly 50 dwelling houses were burnt, and 15 persons lost their lives.

A second attack was made upon the English settlement at Marlborough, on the 20th of the following month, which, though no lives were lost, was attended with more disastrous consequences. It was Lord's day; and the inhabitants were assembled for public worship, when the preacher, the Rev. Mr. Brimsmead, was interrupted in the midst of his discourse by the appalling cry, that the Indians were advancing upon them. The Assembly instantly dispersed; and, with a single exception,* succeeded in reaching the neighboring garrison house in safety before the enemy came up. But though they defended themselves, they could afford no protection to their property, much of which was wasted or destroyed. Their Meeting House and many of their dwelling houses were burned to the ground; their fruit trees hacked and pilled; their cattle killed or maimed, so that marks of their ravages were visible for many years.

The alarm occasioned by this attack, and the defenceless state to which the inhabitants were reduced, led them to retire from the place, and to seek shelter in a more populous neighborhood. Shortly after the close of the war, which lasted little more than a year, they returned to their farms, and were permitted for many years to cultivate them in peace.†

* The person to whom allusion is here made was Moses Newton, grandfather of the late Deac. Paul Newton, of this town. Being detained behind the rest in the benevolent attempt to rescue an aged and infirm female, who would otherwise have been exposed to certain destruction, he received a ball in his elbow, which deprived him in a measure of the use of his arm ever after. Solomon Newton, a grandson of the above, is now living, (1826) aged 92 years, with his son, Willard Newton, Esq. in Southborough, on the farm taken up by his great-grand-father, Richard Newton, nearly 170 years ago. Richard came from England, and was one of the 13 original proprietors of Marlborough. Richard had three sons, Moses, Ezekiel and John. Moses was the father of eight sons and two daughters, viz. Moses, Jonathan, James, Josiah, David, Edward, Hannah, Mercy, Jacob, and Ebenezer.

† There are no records in the Proprietors' Books of what took place be-

Soon after their return, they proceeded to the erection of a new Meeting House, which, like the former, was thatched with straw, or rather a species of tall grass, taken from the meadow since called, from that circumstance, Thatch Meadow. This building, which was left in an unfinished state, lasted but a few years. In 1680, an unsuccessful attempt was made to enlarge and repair it; and at length, in 1688, a larger and more commodious house was erected, near the site of the former, which lasted more than one hundred and twenty years, having stood till the new Meeting House in the east Parish was erected, in 1809.*

Prior to the year 1684, it appears that nothing effectual had been done towards purchasing a title to the land "cleare of the Indians, who were continually making demands upon the towne." The Plantation was commenced under the auspices of the Gen. Court; and, as 6000 acres, bordering upon this Plantation, had been reserved by order of the Court, for the use of the Indians, nothing further seems to have been thought necessary for many years, either by the English or the Indians, to give the former a perfect title to their lands. It was not indeed till the Indian Plantation was broken up, and most of the inhabitants dispersed, that the Indians of Natick and Wamesit, (now a part of Tewksbury,) who belonged to the same tribe with the Marlborough Indians, put in their claims to a right in the soil which had been cultivated by the English now for nearly 30 years.

At length, in the winter of 1684, a Committee of three persons

tween May, 1675, and July, 1677. It appears that the inhabitants had returned some time before the latter date. It appears from the Records of the General Court, that preparations for defence against the Indians had been made as early as 1670. "Ordered, that the Surveyor General shall forthwith deliver unto Maj. Hathorn, or to Lieut. Samuel Ward, 60 great shot, fit for the guns in the Fort at Marlborough. A Fort was maintained there through the war.

* The old Meeting House was valued, in 1689, at £10; the pulpit at £4, "which were improved in the new Meeting House for carrying on the finishing of that."—It would appear, from the following vote, which passed with great unanimity at a meeting of the proprietors, May 21, 1688, that there had been some controversy respecting the location of the new Meeting House, and that it was even then in contemplation to divide the town into two parishes.

"Voted, That if the westerly part of the town shall see cause afterwards to build another Meeting House, and find themselves able so to do, and maintain a minister; then the division to be made by a line at the cart-way at Stirrup Brook, where Conecticot way now goeth over, (now within the limits of Northborough,) and so to run a parallel line with the west line of the bounds of the town." It would seem highly probable, from this vote, that there were inhabitants then living west of the line thus defined, and which was afterwards (1717) made the boundary line between Marlborough and Westborough.

was appointed by the town to treat with the Indians; who, April 17th and 18th, with the help of Maj. Peter Bulkley and Capt. Thomas Hincksman, made a bargain that the town should pay them £31 for a deed in full. The town accepted the conditions, and agreed to bring in the money, (assessed upon the proprietors, now 50 in number,) to the Meeting House, on the 20th of May next, which was accordingly done, and the deed signed by the Indians presented to the town, who directed that it should be kept by Abraham Williams, as also the plat of the plantation made by Samuel Andrews, of which an account has already been given.

A Copy of the Indian Deed of the Plantation of Marlborough.

"To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come, Greeting,

KNOW YEE, That *we*, the Indian inhabitants of the Plantations called Natick and Wamesit," (now part of Tewksbury,) "in the Massachusetts Colonie, in New England, namely," (the names of the grantees are written below, with the omission of Andrew Pilim or Pitimee, and John Wamesqut, and the addition of Edmund Asowonit, making the whole number 25,) "for and in consideration of the sum of *thirty one pounds* of lawful money of New England, which said sum, wee the said" (here the names are repeated,) "do acknowledge ourselves to have received of Abraham Williams and Joseph Rice, both of the town of Marlborough, in the County of Middlesex, in New England, who, in the said payment, not only for themselves, but also as agents in behalf of all the rest of their fellow purchasers, belonging to the said town of Marlborough, and of the said sum of *thirty one pounds*, and of every part and parcel thereof, wee the said" (names repeated) "for ourselves, and for our heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, do freely, clearly, and wholly, exonerate, acquit, and discharge the said Abraham Williams and Joseph Rice and all their said fellow purchasers belonging to the said town of Marlborough, and every of them, and their heirs, executors, administrators, and every of them forever; have given, granted, bargained, sold, and by these presents, do give, grant, bargain, sell, and confirm, unto the said Abraham Williams and Joseph Rice, and unto all their fellow purchasers, belonging to the said Town of Marlborough, and unto all and every of their several heirs and assigns forever, all that tract of land, which is contained within the bounds of the Town, Township, or Plantation, called Marlborough aforesaid, as the said bounds were laid out, plotted and represented by Mr. Samuel Andrews, of Cambridge, un-

to the Court of the Massachusetts Colonie aforesaid, and by the said Court accepted and recorded, that is to say all Uplands, Meadows, Swamps, Woods, Timber, Fountains, Brooks, Rivers, Ponds, and Herbage, within the said bounds of the said Town, Township, or Plantation of Marlborough, together with all and singular the appurtenances thereof, and all manner of profits, gains, and advantages, arising upon, or from, the said tract of land, which the said Abraham Williams, or Joseph Rice, or all, or any of their fellow purchasers, belonging to the town of Marlborough aforesaid, at any time formerly had, or now have, or hereafter at any time may, or shall have; (except a certain farm, some years ago laid out unto Mr. John Alcock, deceased, which lyeth within the bounds of said town or township of Marlburrough, and is by us, the said" [names repeated] "utterly and totally exempted and excluded from this present bargain.) *To have and to hold* all the forementioned tract of land" (here the description is repeated) "to their own proper use and improvement, as is above declared, (except the farm before excepted,) *to themselves*, the said Abraham Williams and Joseph Rice, and to all their said fellow purchasers, belonging to the said Marlburrough, and unto all and several their heirs and assigns forever, in a good and sure estate of inheritance, in fee simple, without any claims or demands, any obstruction, eviction, expulsion, or molestation whatsoever, from us the said" (names repeated,) "or from the heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns of us the said Indians, or either of us, or from any other person or persons whatsoever, acting by, from, or under us or them, or any of them, our said heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns. Furthermore, wee, the said" (names repeated) "do covenant and grant, with, and too, the said Abraham Williams and Joseph Rice, and all their said fellow purchasers, belonging to said Marlburrough, that wee, the above named Indians, have been, until the conveyance and assurance made by these presents, the true and proper owners of all the said tract of land, lying within the bounds of the plantation or township of Marlburrough, together with all and singular the appurtenances thereof, in our own right, and to our own use, in a good absolute and firm estate of inheritance, in fee simple, and have full power, good right, and lawful authority to grant, bargain, sell, conveigh, and assure, the said tract of land, and every part and parcel thereof, with all and singular the appurtenances of the same, as is before, in these presents, mentioned; and wee, the said" (names repeated) "do warrant and assure that all the tract of

land, and all and every the appurtenances thereof, by these presents, alienated and sold, have been and are at the time of signing and sealing of this Deed of sale, utterly and totally free, and clear from any former bargains, sales, gifts, grants, leases, mortgages, judgments, executions, extents, and incumbrances whatsoever; and wee, the said" (names repeated) "for ourselves, and our heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, do, and shall, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, (as occasion shall be offered) confirm, defend, and make good, unto all intents and purposes, this whole bargain and sale aforesaid, and unto all and several their heirs and assigns forever. *In witness* of all which premises, wee, the said" (names repeated) "have hereunto set our hands and seals, this twelfth day of June, in the year of our Lord Christ, one thousand six hundred, eighty and four, Annoq. Regni Regis Caroli Secundi XXXVI.

Andrew Pilim (Pitimee)
Attorney to old F. Waban.
signum
John ⋈ Nasquanet
signum
William ⋈ Wononatomog
signum
John ⋈ Speen
signum
Lawrence ⋈ Nowsawane
signum
Jacob ⋈ Ponopohquin
his mark
Jeremy ⋈ Sosoohquoh
his mark
Samuel ⋈ William
signum
Nathaniel ⋈ Quonkatohn
James Speen
signum
John ⋈ Wamesqut
signum
Job ⋈ Pohpono
his mark
Benjamin ⋈ Tray
his mark
Sosowun ⋈ noo
signum
James ⋈ Wiser
Simon Betogkom
his mark
Great ⋈ John
Thomas Waban
his mark
Abraham ⋈ Speen
his mark
Great ⋈ James
signum
Jacob ⋈ Petowat
signum
Jehoja ⋈ kin
signum
Peter ⋈ Ephraim
Attorney for Jno. Awoosamug.
signum
John ⋈ Awoosamug
signum
Thom. ⋈ Dublet
signum
Benjamin B Boho.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, in presence of us witnesses,

Simon Crosby
John Curtis
his mark
Henry ⋈ Rice
John Magus
Daniel Takawompait } Indians.

"June 11th and 12th, 1684. At a Court held at Natick among the Indians, there appeared in Court, and before me, all the sealers and subscribers to this deed, being twenty five (there are twen-

ty six signatures) persons in number, and freely acknowledged this writing to be their act and deed."

"As Attests, DANIEL GOOKIN, *Sen'r Assistant.*"

"This Deed entered in the Register at Cambridge. Lib. 9. page 293—299. 7. 2. 85. By THO: DANFORTH, *R.*"

It will be seen from the above signatures, that, besides the two Indian witnesses, John Magus and Daniel Takawompait, four others, viz. Andrew Pitimee, James Speen, Simon Betogkom, and Thomas Waban, wrote their own names. Daniel Takawompait, or Tokkohwompait, was a pastor of the church in Natick, in 1698, ordained by the Rev. and holy man of God, JOHN ELIOT. He is said to have been a person of great knowledge.* Thomas Waban was probably a son of old Waban, the first Indian convert in Massachusetts, and one who supported a consistent christian character till his death, which happened in 1674, at the age of 70.† Maj. Gen. Daniel Gookin, before whom the deed was acknowledged, was the friend and fellow laborer of Eliot, an enlightened, virtuous, and benevolent magistrate. He belonged to Cambridge, where he died in 1687, aged 75.

Two others, whose names are affixed to this instrument, viz. John Speen, and John Awoosamug, are mentioned in the account of Dochester.‡ The former of whom, it appears, was for some time a teacher, till he became addicted to intemperance, when he was laid aside. The latter, though he had been propounded to join the church, had been excluded on account of his quick and passionate temper, but discovered marks of penitence during his last sickness, which satisfied the scruples of his brethren.

The Indian Plantation of Ockoocangansett,§ or Marlborough.

Some time previous to the commencement of the English Plantation, as appears from the following order of the General Court, the Indians had a grant of a township in that place.

"In reference to the case between Mr. Eliot, in behalf of the Indians of Oguonikongquamesit, and Sudbury men: the Courte finding that the Indians had a graunt of a township in the place before

* See 1 Hist. Col. X. 134. † 1 Hist. Col. V. 263. ‡ 1 Hist. Col. IX. 198.

§ I have given the name as it is uniformly written in the earliest records of Marlborough. Hutchinson, quoting from Eliot, who visited the place in 1670, writes it Ogguonikongquamesut; Gookin, who wrote in 1674, Okommakamesit. The word has since been corrupted into Agoganggomisset. This name, it should be considered, was at first appropriated to the Indian Plantation, while the English Plantation, before its incorporation in 1660, was called Whipsuppenicke. Both plantations were, however, in 1674, called by the same name by Daniel Gookin.

the English, the Courte determines and orders, that Mr. Edward Jackson, Mr. Tho. Danforth, Mr. Ephraim Child and Capt. Lusher,* or any three of them, as a committee, shall with the first convenient opportunity, if it may be before winter, lay out a township in the said place, of 6000 acres, to the Indians in which, at least, shall bee three or four hundred acres of meadow; and in case there be enough left for a convenient township for the Sudbury men, to lay it out to them; the grant of Mr. Alcock's (842 acres granted in 1655) confirmed by the last Court out of both excepted and reserved, and the Indians to have the Hill on which they are, and the rest of the land to be laid out adjoining to it as may be convenient to both plantations."†

The Hill mentioned in this order, had been improved for many years by the Indians, probably long before the arrival of the English, as a planting field. It was afterwards, in 1677, as appears from the following instrument, conveyed to Daniel Gookin, Esq.

"Know all men by these presents that we old Nequain, Robin called old Robin, Benjamin Wuttanamit, James called Great James, John Nasquamit, Sarah the widow of Peter Nasquament, in behalf of her child Moses David, next heir to my father and to my uncle Josiah Harding, deceased, without issue, Assoask the widow of Josiah Nowell, in behalf of my children, Sarah Conomog, sole exexutrix to my late husband, Conomog, Elizabeth, the only daughter and heir of Solomon, deceased," [Solomon had been the teacher of the Indians of Marlborough,] "James Spene, in behalf of my wife, being all of us, true proprietors, possessors and improvers of the Indian lands called Whipsufferage, alias Okonkonomesit, adjoining to Marlborough in the colony of Massachusetts in New England for divers considerations us thereunto moving, especially the love and duty we owe to our honored magistrate, Daniel Gookin, of Cambridge, Esq. who hath been a ruler to us above 20 years, do hereby freely and absolutely give, grant and confirm, unto him the said Daniel Gookin, Esq. and his heirs forever, one parcel of land heretofore broken up, and being planted by us and our predecessors, called by the name of Okonkonomesit Hill, situate, lying and being on the south side of our township and plantation, near Marlborough, containing about one hundred acres, more or less, (also ten acres in Fort Meadow, and ten in Long Meadow,) with free

* These three, Danforth, Child, and Lusher, were respectively deputies to the General Court from Cambridge, Watertown, and Dedham, in 1657.

† Records of the General Court for the year 1658-9.

liberty of commonage for wood, timber, feeding of his cattle, upon any common land, within our township or plantation."

"Second day of May, 1677.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in presence of us,

John Eliot,	Waban X his mark,
Noah Wiswell,	Piamboo X his mark,
Joshua Woods,	Joseph Wheeler.

Acknowledged before me,

THOMAS DANFORTH, *Assistant.*

Entered and recorded at the Registry at Cambridge. *"

It is thus described by Gookin in 1674. "In this Indian Plantation there is a piece of fertile land, containing above 150 acres, upon which the Indians have, not long since, lived, and planted several apple trees thereupon, which bear abundance of fruit; but now the Indians are removed from it about a mile. This tract of land doth so embosom itself into the English town, that it is encompassed about with it, except one way; and upon the edge of this land the English have placed their Meeting House." It was a favorite design of the benevolent Gookin, which he proposed in his Historical Collections, "as an expedient for civilizing the Indians, and propagating the Gospel among them," to have this tract of land, which, with certain meadows and woodland, he says, "is well worth £200 in money, set apart for an Indian free school; and there to build a convenient house for a school master and his family, and under the same roof may be a room for a school." This, with the necessary out buildings, he computes will not cost more than £200 in money; and the use of the land, he thinks, will be an adequate compensation for the services of the school master.

"Moreover, it is very probable," he adds, "that the English people of Marlborough will gladly and readily send their children to the same school, and pay the school master for them, which will better his maintenance; for they have no school in that place at the present."

We learn further from this account that the number of families in Marlborough, at this period, did not amount to fifty, every village containing that number being required by the laws to provide a school "to teach the English tongue, and to write." "These

* May 18, 1682. Waban, Piamboo, Great James, Thomas Tray, and John Wincols, proprietors of the Indian Plantation of Whipsufferadge, granted to Samuel Gookin, of Cambridge, liberty to erect a Saw Mill upon any brook or run of water within the said Plantation, with land not exceeding three acres, use of timber, &c. for 30 years.

people of Marlborough," says he, somewhat indignantly, "wanting a few of fifty families, do take that low advantage to ease their purses of this common charge."

What reception this proposal met with, we are not informed. It was most certainly an expedient that promised the happiest consequences, and worthy of the liberal and philanthropic mind of its author. How close is the resemblance between this plan, conceived more than one hundred and fifty years since, and that of the Indian schools recently established at Brainerd, Eliot, Mayhew, and other places in the United States?*

The people of Marlborough, notwithstanding the severity of Gookin's censure, have not been behind other towns in New England in their attention to schools. Owing to the troubles which ensued, soon after the date of Gookin's Historical Collections, they felt themselves unable to meet the expense of a public school for several following years. At length, however, in 1698, Benjamin Franklin† was employed as a school master in Marlborough, from the first of November, 1696, to the last of March, 1697, at eight shillings per week; "he engaging carefully to teach all such youth as com or are sent to him, to read English once a day, att least, or more, if need require; also to learn to write and cast accounts." The school was kept in Isaac Wood's house, which was then unoccupied.

* 1 Hist. Col. I. p. 220.

† This person was probably an uncle of Doctor Benjamin Franklin. In the first volume of Franklin's Works, edited by his grandson, William Temple Franklin, page 6, is the following account of the person referred to above. "My grandfather had four sons, who grew up, viz: Thomas, John, Benjamin and Josiah. Benjamin was bred a silk dyer, serving an apprenticeship in London. He was an ingenious man. I remember, when I was a boy, he came to my father's, in Boston, and resided in the house with us for several years. There was always a particular affection between my father and him, and I was his godson. He lived to a great age. He left behind him two quarto volumes of manuscript of his own poetry, consisting of fugitive pieces addressed to his friends. He had invented a short hand of his own, which he taught me, but not having practiced it, I have now forgotten it. He was very pious, and an assiduous attendant at the sermons of the best preachers, which he reduced to writing according to his method, and had thus collected several volumes of them. He was also a good deal of a politician; too much so, perhaps, for his station. There fell lately into my possession, in London, a collection he made of all the principal political pamphlets relating to public affairs, from the year 1641 to 1717; many of the volumes are wanting, as appears, by their numbering; but there still remains eight volumes in folio, and twenty in quarto and octavo. A dealer in old books had met with them, and knowing me by name, having bought books of him, he brought them to me. It would appear that my uncle must have left them here, when he went to America, which was about fifty years ago. I found several of his notes in the margins. His grandson, Samuel Franklin, is still living in Boston."

Jan. 10, 1698–9. The town voted to build a school house. After this, Mr. Jonathan Johnson was employed as a school master for many years in succession.

The Indian Plantation was laid out agreeably to the following report of the Commissioners appointed as aforesaid.

"WHIPSUPPENICKE THE 19th OF JUNE, 1659.

"The Committee appointed by the Gen. Court to lay out a Plantation for the Indians of 6000 acres at the above named place, having given Mr. Eliot* a meeting and duly weighed all his exceptions in the behalf of the Indians; first, what hath beene formerly acted and returned to the Gen. Court, do judge meete in way of complyance, that the bounds of the Indian Plantation bee enlarged unto the most westerly part of the fence, that now standeth on the west side of the Hill or planting field called Ockoocangansett, and from thence to bee extended on a direct north line untill they have their full quantity of 6000 acres: the bounds of their Plantation in all other respects, wee judge meete that they stand as in the form returned; and that their full complement of meadow by Court Grant, may stand and bee exactly measured out by an artist within the limits of the aforesaid lines, when the Indians, or any in their behalf, are willing to be at the charges thereof: provided alwaies that the Indians may have noe power to make sale thereof, of all or any part of their abovesaid lands, otherwise than by the consent of the Hon^{d} Genl Court; or when any shall be made or happen, the Plantation of English there seated may have the first tender of it from the Court; which caution wee the rather insert, because not only a considerable part of the nearest and best planting land is heereby taken away from the English (as we are informed) but the nearest and best part of their meadow, by estimation about an hundred acres in one place, that this north line doth take away, which tendeth much to the detrimenting of the English Plantation, especially if the lands should bee impropriated to any other use than the Indians proposed, that is to say, for an Indian Plantation, or for the accommodating their Plantation, they should bee deprived thereof."

Signed by

ELEAZER LUSHER,
EDWARD JACKSON,
EPHRAIM CHILD,
THOMAS DANFORTH,
} *Commissioners.*

* The celebrated John Eliot, minister of Roxbury, commonly called the Apostle of the Indians.

The account given of this Plantation by Capt. afterwards, Maj. Gen. Gookin, of Cambridge, who visited it in 1674, more than one hundred and fifty years since, will be interesting to those who have not already seen it.

"Okommakamesit, alias Marlborough, is situated about twelve miles north northeast from Hassanamesitt, (Grafton) about thirty miles from Boston westerly.

"This village contains about ten families, and consequently about fifty souls. The quantity of land appertaining to it is six thousand acres. It is much of it good land, and yieldeth plenty of corn, being well husbanded. It is sufficiently stored with meadow, and is well wooded and watered. It hath several good orchards upon it, planted by the Indians: and is in itself a very good plantation. This town doth join so near to the English of Marlborough, that it (we might apply to it what) was spoken of David in type and our Lord Jesus Christ, the antitype, "Under his shadow ye shall rejoice:" but the Indians here do not much rejoice under the Englishmen's shadow; who do so overtop them in their number of people, stocks of cattle, &c. that the Indians do not greatly flourish, or delight in their station at present.

"Their ruler here was Onomog, who is lately deceased, about two months since; which is a great blow to that place. He was a pious and discreet man, and the very soul as it were of that place. Their teacher's name is **** Here they observe the same decorum for religion and civil order, as is done in other towns. They have a constable and other officers, as the rest have. The Lord sanctify the present affliction they are under by reason of their bereavements; and raise up others, and give them grace to promote religion and good order among them."

From this account, which is given by an eye witness, it is pretty evident that a spirit of jealousy and envy against their more prosperous neighbors of the English Plantation, was even then rankling in their hearts: and we are not much surprised to learn that, in the calamitous war which broke out in the following year between the English and Indians, known by the name of King Philip's war, some of these half civilized sons of the forest were found among the enemy, at the place of their general rendezvous, in the western part of Worcester County, a few days previous to their desolating march

*Hutchinson says his name was Solomon, judged to be a serious and sound Christian. p. 167.

through the country, in which Lancaster, and many other towns, experienced the horrors of savage warfare.*

*James Quanipaug, who was sent out with another Indian by the name of Job to reconnoitre the enemy, then in the Western part of this County, in the beginning of 1676, passed through Hassanamesit (Grafton) thence to Manexit, (a part of Woodstock) where he was taken by seven Indians and carried to Menimesseg, (New Braintree) where he found many of the enemy, and among them "the Marlborough Indians who pretended that they had been fetched away by the other Indians." Some of them professed to be willing to return. Philip is said at this time to have been about half a day's journey on the other side of Fort Orania, (Albany) and the Hadley Indians on this side. They were then preparing for that memorable expedition, in which the towns of Lancaster, Groton, Marlborough, Sudbury, and Medfield, were destroyed.

The letter of James Quanipaug bears date 24th: 11 mo: 1675. (Jan. 24, 1676.) It was only 16 days after this, viz. Feb. 10th O. S. that they made a descent upon Lancaster, with 1500 warriors, and butchered or carried into captivity nearly all the inhabitants of that flourishing village.

Whether the Marlborough Indians joined in this expedition, or left the enemy and returned to their homes, I have not been able after diligent enquiry to ascertain. The little that I have been able to collect, though corroborated by circumstantial evidence, rests mainly on tradition.

Though it appears from the testimony of James Quanipaug that the Marlborough Indians were with Philip's men at Menimesseg, it is by no means certain that all who belonged to the Plantation had gone over to the enemy. Tradition says, that those who remained at home were suspected of treachery, and that representations to that effect were made to the governor, (Leverett) who dispatched a company of soldiers under the command of Capt. Mosely, to convey them to Boston. They reached Marlborough, it is said, in the night; and early in the morning, before the Indians had any suspicion of their design, surrounded the fort to which they were accustomed to repair at night, siezed on their arms, and obliged them to surrender. They attempted no resistance, and it is by no means certain that they entertained any hostile designs against the English. They were, however, taken into the custody of the soldiers; and, having their hands fastened behind their backs, and then being connected together by means of a cart rope, they were in this manner driven down to Boston, whence it is probable, that they were conveyed, in company with the Indians of Natick and other places, to one of the islands in the harbor, and kept in durance till the close of the war.

This tradition is corroborated by the following circumstances.

In the account of Daniel Gookin, in 1 Hist. Col. 1, 228, it is said that "some instances of perfidy in Indians, who had professed themselves friendly, excited suspicions against all their tribes. The General Court of Massachusetts passed several severe laws against them; and the Indians of Natick and other places, who had subjected themselves to the English government, were hurried down to Long Island (Hutchinson says Deer Island,) in the harbor of Boston, where they remained all winter, and endured inexpressible hardships." We learn further from Hutchinson, that the Indians of Punkapog alone (now Stoughton) were exempted from this severity of treatment. The ground of the harsh measures adopted in reference to the Indians in the neighborhood of Boston, was, the perfidious conduct of the Springfield Indians, in assisting in the destruction of Westfield, Hadley, and other places, in October 1675. "This instance of perfidy," says Hutchinson, "seems to have increased the jealousies and suspicions, which had before begun of the Indians round Boston, viz. Punkapog, Natick," &c."

At the session, in October, the General Court ordered "that no person shall entertain, own, or countenance any Indian under the penalty of being a betrayer of this government."

"That a guard be set at the entrance of the town of Boston, and that no

This war, if calamitous to the English, proved fatal to nearly all the Indian Plantations in New England. Among the rest the

Indian be suffered to enter upon any pretence without a guard of two musketeers, and not to lodge in town."

"That any person may apprehend an Indian, finding him in town, or approaching the town, and that none be suffered to come in by water."

To this we may add, that Capt. Mosely's character was such as to render it highly probable that he performed the part which tradition has assigned to him. Hutchinson says, "he had been an old privateerer at Jamaica, probably of such as were called Buccaniers." He commanded a company of 110 volunteers, in the war with King Philip, and was one of the most resolute and courageous captains of his day. It was he who, on Sept. 1, 1675, went out to the rescue of Capt. Lathrop, who with only 80 men was attacked by a body of 7 or 8 hundred Indians at Deerfield, when all Capt. L's company, with the exception of seven or eight, were cut off. He also led the van in the terrible assault made upon the Indians, Dec. 19, in the Narragansett country, in which six English captains were killed, and nearly 200 men killed and wounded.

I hope I shall be pardoned for adding to this already extended note, the following particulars respecting the remains of the Marlborough Indians.

After the close of the war, some of the Indians of Marlborough appear to have returned to their former place of abode. But their plantation was broken up, and they were forced to find shelter and subsistence as they were able.

A considerable number of the Indians who remained in, or returned to, Marlborough, after the war, lived in the westerly part of the town, on the farm of Thomas Brigham, one of the oldest proprietors, the common ancestor of all the Brighams in this town, as well as of many of that name in Marlborough, Westborough, and other places. The late Judge Brigham, of Westborough, and Rev. Benjamin Brigham, of Fitzwilliam, were great-grandsons of Thomas.

Among those who returned was David, alias David Munnanaw, who had joined Philip, and as he afterwards confessed, assisted in the destruction of Medfield. This treacherous Indian had, it is said, a slit thumb, which circumstance led to his conviction. He had been absent from Marlborough several months, but after his return would give no account of himself whither he had been, or how he had employed himself in the mean time. At length, however, an inhabitant of Medfield, one whom Munnanaw had wounded, being at Marlborough, immediately recognized him by the mark on his thumb, and charged him with his treachery. At first he denied the charge; but, finding that the proof against him could not be evaded, he at length owned that he had been led away by Philip, and had assisted in the burning of Medfield.

He was, however, suffered to live without molestation. His wigwam stood on the borders of the beautiful lake, near the public house kept by Mr. Silas Gates, where he lived with his family many years, till the infirmities of old age came upon him. He was accustomed to repair to the neighboring orchards for the purpose of obtaining fruit. There was one tree of the fruit of which he was particularly fond, and which was accordingly his favorite place of resort. In this spot the old warrior expired. Old David Munnanaw died a little more than 80 years since, having lived, as was supposed, nearly or quite a century of years. Capt. Timothy Brigham, now in his 91st year, well recollects having seen him, when he was a child of about 9 or 10 years old, at his grandfather's, Jonathan Brigham's, of Marlborough. According to this account, Munnanaw must have been a young man, 25 or 30 years of age, at the time of Philip's war. Capt. B. represents him as bearing the marks of extreme old age, his flesh wasted, and his skin shrivelled. He understood that he had the reputation of having been treacherous to the English. Abimilech David, supposed to be a son of the former, was a tall, stout, well pre-

Plantation of Marlborough, was completely broken up and soon passed into other hands. On the 15th of July 1684, a few weeks subsequent to the date of the Indian deed of the English Plantation, the Indian lands were formally transferred by deed to John Brigham of Marlborough and his fellow purchasers;* and in October, 1686, the aforesaid John Brigham who was a noted surveyor and speculator in lands, was appointed "to lay out 30 acres to each of the proprietors in some of the best of the land lying as convenient as may be to the town of Marlborough."

June the 5th 1700, the inhabitants of Marlborough petitioned the General Court, that the proprietors of the Indian lands might be annexed to the said town, which petition was granted, and Marlborough accordingly received an accession of 6000 acres, a large proportion of which is good land.

After the close of Philip's war the inhabitants of Marlborough do not appear to have been seriously molested by the Indians till after the commencement of the eighteenth century.

In the mean time the settlement had extended itself towards the borders of the town, so that some time previous to the close of the

portioned Indian, is well remembered by many persons now living. Abimilech had several daughters, among whom were, Sue, Deborah, Esther, Patience, Nabby, and Betty. They lived in a wretched hovel or wigwam, under the large oak now standing, near the dwelling house of Mr. Warren Brigham. They had become dissolute in their habits, and were exceedingly troublesome to their neighbors; and they are remembered with very little respect or affection.

The Indian burying ground, where the last remnants of the race were interred, is situated a few rods from the south road, leading from Marlborough to Northborough, near the residence of Widow Holyoke, in a field belonging to the old Brigham farm. It has been enjoined on the family in each succeeding generation, not to trespass on this repository of the dead; an injunction which has hitherto been duly regarded. The burying ground is about five rods in length, and somewhat more than one rod in breadth, covered with wild grass and loose stones. A few years since, as I have been informed, as many as twenty or thirty graves were plainly distinguishable, though they have now almost wholly disappeared. Two of the graves were situated without the bounds of the rest, and in a direction perpendicular to them; the former being from north to south, the latter from east to west. Many aged persons can remember when the last degraded remnants of the race, once inhabiting the soil we occupy, enclosed in rude coffins of rough boards, hastily put together, and without any religious ceremony, were conveyed to this repository of the dead.

*This deed appears to have been obtained by unfair means, as in the following September, a committee appointed by the General Court to examine into the grounds of complaint made by the Indians against the English of Marlborough, reported in favor of the Indians, and "the Court ordered and declared that the Indian deed of sale to the inhabitants of Marlborough of 5800 acres of land (the whole of the Indian Plantation with the exception of the Indian Planting field) bearing date July 15, 1684, is illegal and consequently null and void."

seventeenth century, some of the lands now included within the limits of Westborough and Northborough, then called Chauncey, or Chauncey Village, had been laid out for farms.

Indeed so early as 1660, the very year that Marlborough was incorporated, several tracts of meadow, lying within the limits of this town, were surveyed and the names given them which they now bear.* And, in 1662, three large meadows, Cold Harbour Meadow, Middle Meadow, and Chauncey Meadow, the first of which and part of the second, lie within the limits of this town, were ordered to be surveyed, and each to be laid out in thirty four lots, which was probably the number of proprietors at that time.†

The first grants of land lying within the limits of what is now Westborough and Northborough, with the exception of the meadows above named, bear the date of 1672. From this time, and before the close of the century, many of the proprietors of Marlborough had taken up their 2nd, 3d, and 4th divisions in the westerly part of the town, several of them west of the river Assabeth.

It is asserted by Rev. Mr. Whitney, in his history of this town, that there were settlers in this part of Marlborough before there were any in what is now Westborough. The first settler according to tradition was John Brigham, from Sudbury, a noted land survey-

* Three Corner Meadow, Stirrup Meadow, Crane Meadow, Cedar Meadow, &c.

† The origin of these names according to tradition was as follows:—Cold Harbour Meadow, in the western part of this town, so called from the circumstance of a traveller, having lost his way, being compelled to remain through a cold winter's night in a stack of hay in that place, and on the following morning, having made his way through the wilderness to the habitations of man, and being asked where he lodged during the night, replied, "In Cold Harbour." Middle Meadow, on the borders of Westborough and Northborough, so called probably from its situation in reference to the two others.

Chauncey Meadow, in Westborough, so called probably for the same reason that the western part of Marlborough was called Chauncey. The origin of the name was known only by tradition in the Rev. Mr. Parkman's day, who was ordained in Westborough, Oct. 28th, 1724, and who gave the following account. "It is said that in early times one Mr. Chauncey was lost in one of the swamps here, and from hence this part of the town had its name." I find from the records of the General Court for the year 1665, that Mr. Chauncey had taken up lands within the limits of Marlborough, and that the proprietors of Marlborough were ordered to remunerate him for his expences incurred in laying out his farm, "and he hath liberty to lay out the same in any land not formerly granted by this Court." Quere.—May not this have been President Chauncey, of Harvard College, to whom, an account of the smallness of his salary, repeated grants of land were made about this time by the General Court? Dr. Chauncey, of Boston, the great-grandson of President Chauncey, says that the latter was the first, and the common ancestor of all of that name in this place. If so, the Mr. C. above mentioned must have been President Chauncey or one of his sons.

or, undoubtedly the same person who has been mentioned in our account of the Indian Plantation. It appears from the Proprietors' records that a grant of land was made to John Brigham, in 1672, "in the place formerly desired, that is, on Licor Meadow plain." This land was probably part of the Coram Farm, so called, the principal part of which lay on the northern side of the old Marlborough line,* and now constitutes, in whole, or in part, the farms of Nahum Fay, Esq. John Green, Asa Fay, Lewis Fay, and Stephen Williams, Esq. The lands of Mr. Brigham extended to the saw mill of Mr. Lowell Holbrook, near which he erected a small cabin, in which he lived several years, remote from any human habitation, till, at length, the fear of the Savages compelled him to retreat to a place of greater security; and, it is said, that only a few days after his removal, a party of Indians came to the place and burned his house to the ground.

The first Saw Mill erected in this town was built by the above named Brigham, and stood on the same spot, which is now occupied for the same purpose.†

In the same year (1672) a grant of land was made to Samuel Goodenow, grandfather of the late Asa Goodenow, and to Thomas Brigham, the person mentioned in the last note, "by Double Pond Meadow, on both sides said meadow."‡ The lands taken up on the account of the above named Samuel Goodenow, constituted three

* The old Marlborough line, was a straight line of seven miles in extent, running through the northwest angle of this town, and cutting off more than 2000 acres, which constitute what is called the new grants, of which an account will be given hereafter.

† John Brigham was one of three brothers (John, Samuel, and Thomas) who came from Sudbury to Marlborough sometime previous to 1672. Their father was from England, married a Mercie Hurd also from England, settled in Sudbury, where he died probably in middle life, as his widow had buried a second husband by the name of Hunt, before her sons removed to Marlborough. Samuel Brigham, was the grand-father of the late Dr. Samuel Brigham, of Marlborough: Thomas was an ancestor of the late Judge Brigham, of Westborough; and John, who was sometimes called Doctor Brigham, was the father of the Mrs. Mary Fay, wife of Gershom Fay, of whose remarkable escape from the Indians we shall presently give an account. John Brigham was one of the selectmen of Marlborough in 1679, and in the winter of 1689 90, representative to the Convention then sitting in Boston. The Coram Farm, was granted him, it is said, by the General Court to compensate him for services as a surveyor of lands. Mr. Brigham lived to be quite aged, and used to come to reside with his daughter Mrs. Fay, in this town.

‡ Quere. May not this meadow be the one which lies between Great and Little Chauncey ponds, which, as they are connected with each other by a water communication, might have been called at first Double Pond? David Brigham, son of Thomas, lived on the borders of Great Chauncey, on the farm now in the possession of Lovett Peters, Esq.

of the oldest settlements in this town, on one of which was the principal garrison house, used for many years as a defence against the Indians, and which stood on the farm of Mr. Gill Bartlett, then owned by Samuel Goodenow, Jr. The other two, were in the vicinity of this, and constitute in whole, or in part, the farms of Deac. Jonas Bartlett and Mr. Stephen How.

In the same year, a grant of land was made to John Rediet, "west of Assabeth River, northwest side of the Chauncey Great Pond, bounded on the east by a Spruce Swamp:" another tract on "the Nepmuck road, that formerly led toward Coneticoat."* The land of John Rediet, who was one of the first proprietors and greatest land holders of Marlborough, came into the possession of Nathaniel Oaks, who married his daughter, and who lived on the farm owned in succession by Rev. John Martyn and Rev. Peter Whitney, and now in the possession of Mr. Jacob Pierce.† Capt. James Eager was another of the first settlers of this town. He lived near the centre of the town on the farm now in the possession of Mr. John Fisk. His house was once used for a garrison, and was for many years occupied as a tavern, being the first that was opened in the place.‡

* "The Nepmuck Road, that formerly led toward Coneticoat," was the old Connecticut road that passed through the southeast part of this town, over Rock Hill, east of Great and Little Chauncey ponds, into Westborough and thence through Hassanamesit or Grafton. 1. Hist. Col. 1. p. 185 and 192.

† Nathaniel Oaks came from England, married Mehitabel, daughter of John Rediet, who died Nov. 25th, 1702, without children. His second wife Mary, was a daughter of Adam Holloway, by whom he had the following children, viz.—Nathaniel, who lived at Bolton. William, burned to death at Shrewsbury in the house of Capt. Keyes. Hannah, married to Gersham Fay, Jr. died March 8, 1806, wanting but a few months of a century. She was the mother of the late Thaddeus Fay, who died, July 22, 1822, aged 91 years. Mary, married to Daniel Maynard, Marlborough. Ann, married to David Maynard, Westborough. John, built the house near Col. Crawford's, owned by Joel Gasset. Jonathan, removed to Harvard. George, lived near the house of Mr. Luther Hawse, and built a saw mill on the river Assabeth.

‡ Capt. James Eager was a native of Marlborough, born in 1685, died 1755, aged 70. He was one of the leading men of the place at the time that Northborough became a separate precinct. It is said that his house was the first that was built on the new Connecticut road, between the house of Samuel Goodenow and the town of Worcester. It is but little more than a hundred years, since there was not a human habitation on the road from Marlborough to Brookfield, west of the Goodenow farm, in the eastern part of this town, with the exception of a few log houses in that part of Worcester called Boggachoag. James Eager, Jr. a son of the above, was married to Mariam, daughter of Joseph Wheeler. Their daughter Zilpeh, was married to Michael, son of Rev. John Martyn through whom there are several persons in this town who trace their descent from the first minister of the place.

Several other persons settled in what is now Marlborough, in the early part of the last century.*

Soon after the commencement of the eighteenth century, the English settlers of Marlborough were again exposed to the horrors of Indian warfare. It will be difficult for us, who are permitted to dwell in security under the shelter of the domestic roof, to form an adequate idea of the perilous condition of our forefathers, at this gloomy period. "We have, indeed, heard within our ears, and our fathers have told" us the story of their dangers and sufferings "in the waste and howling wilderness." But how difficult to enter into the feelings of men, who were in constant peril for their lives; who, like the children of Israel in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, repaired to their work with weapons in their hands, and who were liable to be waked from their midnight slumbers by the savage yells of a pitiless foe? In many instances were they

*Simeon Howard was the father of Cornet Simeon Howard, and of Jonathan Howard, whose son, Gideon Howard, removed to Worthington, in this state, where his descendants, it is supposed, still live.

Simon Howard, Senior, from Concord, was another of the first settlers. His house stood near the hearse house, on the land of Mr. Asa Fay.

It is not known whether the Simeon Howard mentioned above, was related to Simeon Howard, D. D. late pastor of the west church in Boston.

Adam Holloway, from Concord, (died in 1733, aged 80,) and his son Lieut. Wm. Holloway, (died Jan. 6, 1760, aged 71,) settled on the farm now owned by Stephen Williams, Esq.

Lieut. Wm. Holloway, married Mary, (died March 9, 1788, aged 94,) a daughter of Simeon Howard, Senior, by whom he had two sons and four daughters. The sons died young. Of the daughters, Mary, married Jonathan Bartlett, died Dec. 22, 1821, aged 95.—Hannah, married Capt. James Stone, of Western.—Betty, married Daniel Wheeler, of Hardwick.—Jemima, married John Taylor, who died at St. Albans, Vt.

John Taylor, was the father of Col. Holloway Taylor now of St. Albans and of John Taylor, Esq. an Attorney at law, at Northampton.

Gershom Fay, Senior, was one of the first settlers of this town. He was the son of John Fay, of Marlborough, married Mary, a daughter of John Brigham, died in 1720. He lived at first in the easterly part of the town, afterwards, built a house on the *Coram Farm*, near the bend of the road, between the dwelling house of Capt. Hastings, and that of Stephen Williams, Esq. His children were Gershom, Mary, Susanna, Sarah, Silas, Timothy, and Paul.

Thomas Ward, from Marlborough, was the first settler on the farm now in the possession of Asaph Rice; and Deac. Isaac Tomblin on the farm of the late Deac. Isaac Davis.

Hezekiah Tomblin, lived first on Tomblin Hill, so called; Ephraim Beeman, on the farm of Samuel Dalrymple.

Joseph Wheeler, (died in 1747, aged 56,) lived on the southern declivity of Ball's Hill, so called.

Ephraim Allen, from Roxbury, purchased of an Eleazer How, a few acres of land, with a grist mill erected thereon, the site of the present mill, and Cotton Factory. This was the first, and for many years the only grist mill, in this town.

compelled to desert their farms, leaving their lands untilled, while old and young, the strong and the feeble, flocked to the frail fortifications, denominated garrisons, as their only means of safety.

These were usually nothing more than common dwelling houses, surrounded by palisades, and furnished with a supply of fire arms and ammunition. In the year 1711, there were no fewer than twenty six garrison houses within the limits of Marlborough, to each of which were assigned, on an average, five or six families, the whole number of families being one hundred and thirty seven.*

*"MARLBOROUGH, DECEMBER 11, 1711.

"These several persons are allowed by the Captain Generall.

"The persons assigned to each particular Garrison are as followeth: Ordered, by us the Subscribers, by the direction of an act of the Generall Court, entitled an act for the better security and defence of the fronteers.

Capt. How's GARISON.
Samuel Stevens
James How
Jonathan How
Samuel Stow, Senior
Thomas Stow
Jonathan Morse.

Mr. BRECK'S* GARISON.

Capt. KERLY'S GARISON.
Nathaniel Joslin
Joseph Maynard
Deacon Woods
Nathaniel Johnson
Thomas Amsden
Simon Gates
Joseph Johnson.

Capt. BRIGHAM'S GARISON.
Peter Plimpton
Benjamin Mixer

ISAAC AMSDEN'S GARISON.
Thomas Newton
Sergeant Mainard
James Woods
Adam Martin
Is. Tempels
Deacon Newton
John Amsden.

Is. How's GARISON.
Moses Newton
David Fay
John Newton
Widdow Johnson
Moses Newton, Jr.
James Kady.

Lieut. WILLIAMS' GARISON.
Thomas Beman
Peter Bent
Richard Barns
Edward Barns

ENSIGN How's GARISON.
Ensign Bouker
Joseph Wait
David Church
Benjamin Rice
Peter Rice
Jacob Rice
Joseph Rice.

SAMUEL MORRIL'S GARISON.
Sergeant Barret
John Barns
Benjamin Baylis
Joseph Ward
Joshua Rice
Thomas Martin
Samuel Bush.

THOMAS BRIGHAM'S GARISON.
Jonathan Brigham
Oliver Ward
Increas Ward.

JOHN How's GARISON.
Zac. Eager
Abraham Eager
Daniel Johnson
Samuel Wheelock
Obadiah Ward
Thomas Axtel.

SAMUEL GOODENOW'S GARISON.
Nathaniel Oakes

* This undoubtedly was the Rev. Robert Breck, the second Minister of Marlborough.

For several of the preceding years, the inhabitants, especially such as lived in the borders of the town, had been kept in a state of constant anxiety and alarm, in consequence of the hostile attitude of the Indians.

August 8th, 1704, a party of Indians, eight or ten in number, rushed suddenly from the woods, and fell upon a number

Jonathan Farbush
Gershom Fay.

Lieut. How's Garison.
Thomas Ward
Edward Rice

Nathan Brigham's Garison.
Joseph Stratten
Henry Bartlett
Ellicksander Steward.

Samuel Ward Senior's Garison.
William Ward
Widdow Hannah Ward
Jonathan Johnson, Senior
Caleb Rice.

John Mathew's Garison.
William Johnson
Samuel Ward.

Daniel Rice's Garison.
Widdow Sarah Tayler
Suply Weeks
Elyazer Taylyer.

Samuel Forbush's Garison.
James Bradish
Thomas Forbush
James Glesson.

Edmond Rice's Garison.
David Brigham
Isaac Tomblin
David Maynard.

Thomas Rice's Garison.
John Pratt
Charles Rice.

Thomas Hapgood's Garison.
John Forbush
John Wheeler
Josiah How
B—— Curly (Kerly) Senior
James Curly.

Simon Mainard's Garison.
Adam Holloway
Benjamin Whitney
Joseph Newton
John Keyes
Abrell Bush.

Mill Garison.
Thomas Barret
John Banister.

John Newton Jr's Garison.
Eliazer Bellows
John Bellows
James Eager
James Newton
Benjamin Newton
Ephraim Newton
John Woods
Abraham Newton.

Jonathan Newton's Garison.
Is. Woods
Thomas Witherby
Is. Amsden
Moses Lenard
Roger Bruce.

Joseph Morse's Garison.
Thomas Biglo
Samuel Biglo
Samuel Mors
John Biglo
John Sherman
Daniel Harington.

THOMAS HOW
SAMUEL BRIGHAM
ISAAC AMSDEN
ELEAZER HOW
DANIEL HOW
JOHN BOUKER
JONATHAN JOHNSON
NATHANIEL JOSLIN
PETER RICE
JOHN MAINARD
JOHN BARRETT
} Committee."

of the inhabitants of what is now Westborough, while at work in the field; killed Nahor, a son of Mr. Edmund Rice, on the spot, seized and carried into captivity two other sons, Silas and Timothy; also Ashur and Adonijah, two sons of Mr. Thomas Rice. Ashur was redeemed by his father, and returned in about four years. He afterwards settled in Spencer. Adonijah remained in Canada, cultivated a farm in the vicinity of Montreal. His Indian name was Asaunaugooton. The other two lived among the Indians, married Indian wives, acquired their habits, and lost all knowledge of the English language. The puritanical names of Silas and Timothy were changed into the heathenish, but not unmusical ones of Tookanowras and Oughtsorongoughton. The latter is said to have been the third of the six chiefs of the Cagnawaga tribe, and the one who made the speech to Gen. Gage, in behalf of his tribe, soon after the reduction of Montreal. This chief, in the year 1740, thirty six years after his captivity, visited his relations in Westborough, and retained, it is said, a distinct recollection of the circumstances of his captivity, and of several aged persons then living. Mr. Seth Rice, father of the late Deac. Seth Rice, and who died in 1796, aged 91, was a brother, and Thankful, wife of the late Mr. Josiah Rice, was a sister, of the above named Silas and Timothy.

In the preceding month, (July) two of the inhabitants of Marlborough, viz. Abraham How and Benjamin Hutchins, were slain by the Indians at Lancaster.

On the 15th of October, 1705, Mr. John Biglow, of Marlborough, being then at Lancaster, at the garrison house of Mr. Thomas Sawyer, was, with Mr. Sawyer and his son Elias, taken by the Indians, and conveyed to Canada. They obtained their release in the following manner: Both of them were ingenious mechanics, one, (Sawyer) a blacksmith, the other, (Biglow) a carpenter. While they were at Montreal, they proposed to the French Governor, who resided in that city, that, in case he would procure their ransom, they would erect for him a saw mill, there being none at that time in all Canada. The offer was readily accepted; they fulfilled their engagement, and, after some delays, were permitted to return to their friends, with whom they lived to a good old age. Mr. Biglow, in token of his gratitude for his remarkable deliverance from captivity, called his daughter, born soon after his return, "Freedom;" and a second, born some time afterwards, he called "Comfort," as expressive of the happiness and peace he then enjoyed, contrasted with the hardships and fears of a state of captivity.

Comfort was married to Joseph Brigham, the father of Mr. Jonah Brigham, of this town, who, when a child, often listened to the account given by his grandfather Biglow, of the circumstances of his captivity and escape.

In 1707, August 18th, the following tragical event occurred in what is now the easterly part of Northborough. There was at this time a garrison house standing on the south side of the road, near the brook, known by the name of Stirrup Brook, which crosses the great road between the farms of Messrs. Jonas and Gill Bartlett, then in the possession of Samuel Goodenow. As Mary Goodenow, daughter of Samuel, and Mrs. Mary Fay, wife of Gershom Fay, were gathering herbs in the adjoining meadow, a party of Indians, twenty four in number, all of whom are said to have been stout warriors, were seen issuing from the woods and making towards them. Mrs. Fay succeeded in effecting her escape. She was closely pursued by a party of the enemy; but before they came up, had time to enter the garrison, and to fasten the gate of the enclosure. There fortunately happened to be one man then within, the rest of the men belonging to the garrison being in the fields at work. Their savage invaders attempted in vain to break through the enclosure. These heroic defenders, by dint of great exertion, maintained the unequal conflict, till a party of friends, alarmed by the report of the muskets, came to their relief, when the enemy betook themselves to flight.*

The other unfortunate young woman, Miss Goodenow, being retarded in her flight by lameness, was seized by her merciless pursuers, dragged across the brook to the side of the hill, a little south of the road, where she was killed and scalped, and where her mangled body was afterwards found and buried, and where her grave is shown at this day.

On the following day, the enemy were pursued by a company of about thirty men, from Marlborough and Lancaster, and over-

* Mrs. Fay, it is said, discovered great presence of mind during this assault, being constantly employed in loading and reloading the muskets belonging to the garrison, and handing them to her companion, who by this means was able to keep up a constant fire upon the invaders. No wonder that she was brave, for she had much at stake. She was then the mother of two young children, one four, and the other two years old. Gershom, father of the late Thaddeus Fay, and Mary, afterwards married to George Smith. Her third, called Susanna, who was born on the 18th of the following November, was subject to a constant nervous trembling, caused, it is supposed, by the mother's fright, received at this time. At her father's death, Nov. 24, 1720, she was left to the care of her brother, the late Timothy Fay, with whom she lived till her decease.

taken in what is now Sterling, where a hard conflict ensued, in which nine of their number, and two of our men were slain. In one of their packs was found the scalp of the unfortunate Miss Goodenow, which was the first intimation that was obtained of her melancholy fate.

Nothing worthy of record is preserved of what took place between this period* and the incorporation of the westerly part of Marlborough, then called Chauncey Village, and including what is now Westborough and Northborough. The act of incorporation is dated November 19, 1717, O. S. or, in our present reckoning, November 30.

In the fall of 1718, the first meeting house was raised, which stood near the northern limits of Westborough, not far from the public house kept by Mr. Silas Wesson. It was not, however, till October 28, 1724, or nearly seven years after the town was incorporated, that a church was gathered, and the Rev. Mr. Parkman, the first minister of Westborough, was ordained.

It was at this house that our fathers, the first settlers of Northborough, worshipped for more than twenty years, some of them being accustomed to walk every Sabbath the distance of five or six miles.

At length, October 20, 1744, the town of Westborough, consisting at that time of one hundred and twenty five families, was divided into two precincts; the north part, to use the words of Rev. Mr. Parkman, "being indeed very small."† The number of families set off to the north precinct was only thirty eight; while eighty seven families remained attached to the old society. Nor was the separation effected without much opposition, and mutual recrimination, the unhappy effects of which lasted many years.

Having arrived at that period of our history, when Northborough became a separate precinct, we proceed to give some account of its boundaries, dimensions, face of the soil, &c.

*I find, from a record kept by Col. Williams, of Marlborough, that Jonathan Johnson was slain by the Indians, October 12, 1708, but at what place, and under what circumstances, I have not been able to ascertain.

†The act of the General Court, setting off the north part of Westborough as a separate precinct, provides, "that the Inhabitants of said north part should give security to Rev. Mr. Parkman, their present pastor, to give him £100, lawful money, settlement, and £50, like money, per annum, in case he should incline to settle with them, agreeably to what they now promise; or otherwise, £12, 10*s.* like money, if he chooses to continue in the south part." It is unnecessary to add, that Rev. Mr. Parkman chose to remain the minister of the old parish. He died Dec. 9, 1782, in the 90th year of his age, and the 59th of his ministry.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—A plan of the town was made in 1795, by Mr. Silas Keyes, surveyor, then an inhabitant of the place. According to this plan, Northborough contained 10096 acres, including ponds and roads. Since that date, that is, Feb. 15, 1806, the dividing line between this town and Berlin, was by mutual consent, altered so as to bring both towns into a better shape; and in June 20, 1807, the line between Northborough and Marlborough was altered, so as to include the farm of Deac. Jonas Bartlett, within the limits of this town. In its present state, the town contains about 10,150 acres.

The boundaries according to the plan made in 1795, are as follows*:—Beginning at the southwest corner, at a heap of stones on Shrewsbury line, it thence runs east, nineteen degrees north, four hundred and eighty nine rods, to a stake by the river Assabeth; thence, in a northeasterly direction, as the river runs, one hundred and seventy six rods, to the County road, near the dwelling house of Phineas Davis, Esq.; thence, by said river, one hundred and ninety four rods, to a stake and stones; thence east, twenty degrees north, eight hundred and sixty four rods, to a stake and stones on Southborough line. (The above are the boundaries between Northborough and Westborough.) From the last mentioned bounds, the line runs north, thirty two degrees west, one hundred and forty rods by Southborough, to a stake and stones at the corner of Marlborough. (The above are the boundaries between Northborough and Southborough.) From Marlborough corner the line ran, according to the plan of Mr. Keyes, north, thirty degrees forty five minutes west, one hundred and eighty seven rods, to a stake and stones; thence north, forty degrees thirty minutes west, one hundred and ten rods, to do.; thence north, twenty two degrees thirty minutes west, one hundred and forty eight rods, to do.; thence north, thirty two degrees west, forty rods, to a swamp white oak; thence north, twenty nine degrees west, seventy two rods, to a stake and stones; thence north, thirty degrees west, sixty four rods, to do. by the County road; thence north, thirty one degrees forty minutes west, seventy seven rods, to do.; thence north, twenty eight degrees fifteen minutes west, one hundred and twenty eight rods, to a walnut tree by the river; thence north, thirty three degrees thirty minutes west, sixty eight rods, to a large oak tree marked; thence north, twenty seven degrees west, forty seven

* For the alterations referred to above, see Massachusetts Special Laws, Vol. IV. p. 3 and 112.

rods, to a pine tree marked; thence north, thirty one degrees thirty minutes west, one hundred and twenty nine rods, to a stake and stones by Berlin line or corner. (The above were the former bounds between Northborough and Marlborough; for the alteration see note.) From Berlin corner, the line ran north, thirty degrees west, one hundred and forty eight rods, to a heap of stones; thence east, thirty two degrees north, ninety rods, to the Long Stone, so called; thence west, sixteen degrees north, eight hundred and ten rods, to a heap of stones on Boylston line. (These were the former bounds between Northborough and Berlin; for the alteration see note.) Thence south, sixteen degrees west, eight hundred and sixty eight rods, to a heap of stones at Shrewsbury corner. (This is the line between Northborough and Boylston.) Thence south, sixteen degrees west, one hundred and forty nine rods, to a heap of stones. (This is supposed to be on or near the old Marlborough line, which extended thence in one direction to the northwest corner of Marlborough.) Thence south, twenty four degrees east, one hundred and eighty two rods, to a great oak; thence south, twenty one degrees east, one hundred and fifty rods, to a heap of stones; thence south, one degree east, twenty rods to the County road; thence, in the same direction, three hundred and seventeen rods, to a red oak; thence south, twenty eight degrees thirty five minutes east, one hundred and ninety four rods, to where it began. (These are the bounds between Northborough and Shrewsbury.)

Besides what was originally a part of Marlborough, this town includes a large triangular tract, lying north of the old Marlborough line, (of which the Coram Farm and the Brown Farm made a part) and containing, as has been estimated, between two and three thousand acres. This tract, with several others now in the westerly part of Westborough, was surveyed in January and February, 1715–16, by Wm. Ward, and annexed to Chauncey Village by a grant of the General Court, before the latter was separated from Marlborough.

In March and April, 1721, this tract was again surveyed by James Keyes; and a committee, consisting of John Sherman, David Brigham, and Joseph Wheeler, was appointed to lay it out in forty five shares, according to the number of the proprietors, which shares were afterwards divided among them by lot.

Besides the above tract, the principal part of the farm of Deac.

Caleb Rice, of Marlborough,* which lay without the original boundaries of the town, with another tract nearly as large, adjoining the former, falls within the limits of Northborough, forming the southwest angle of the town.

Northborough is of an irregular form, its average length being about five miles, and its average breadth somewhat more than three miles.

SURFACE, SOIL, &c.—The principal part of the town consists of a valley, environed by the hills of Marlborough on the east, Berlin on the north, and Boylston and Shrewsbury on the west, and opening into Westborough on the south, which town is an extension of the same low grounds. The surface of this valley is, however, diversified by numerous hills, some of which are so considerable as to be distinguished by names. The northwest corner of the town, comprehending five or six good farms, and more than 1000 acres of land, forms part of the ridge of high land, running from Berlin, through Boylston and Shrewsbury, and is commonly called Ball's Hill.†

Liquor Hill is a beautiful eminence, rising with a gentle declivity from the great road, nearly opposite to the church, skirted with forest trees, while its summit and its northern and southern declivities are open to the view and form a rich and pleasing prospect. Edmund Hill, about a mile in the northerly direction from the church, and Cedar Hill, in the southeastern part of the town, are similar in form to Liquor Hill, but less open to observation.

Northborough is well supplied with streams of water. The principal stream is the river Assabeth, which, rising in Grafton, and crossing an angle of Westborough, flows diagonally in a northeastern direction, through this town, crossing the great road, about half a mile east of the church, and furnishing several valuable water privileges.

Cold Harbour Brook rises in Shrewsbury, crosses the southeast corner of Boylston, and enters this town. Having received a small

* Deac. Caleb Rice was the father of the late Josiah Rice, of this town, who died 1792, aged 92, and who came into possession of the farm abovementioned, and was one of the greatest landholders in the town. That farm alone contained above five hundred acres, besides which, he owned several hundred acres in other parts of the town.

† So called from two brothers, James and Nathan Ball, from Watertown, who settled there about the year 1720, and where some of their descendants still live. James, the father of the late Doct. Stephen Ball, and grandfather of the present Doct. Stephen Ball, Sen. died 1756, aged 62. Nathan, father of Nathan Ball, died 1768, aged 73.

tributary stream from Rocky Pond, in Boylston, and supplying water for a Grist and Saw Mill, it flows in a very circuitous route through a tract of rich intervales and extensive meadows, crossing the road at Cold Harbour bridge, a few rods south of the church, and having received another small stream from the west, on which a Saw Mill is erected, it falls into the Assabeth, a little below where the latter crosses the great road.

In the easterly part of the town, a small stream, called Stirrup Brook, issuing from Little Chauncey Pond, furnishes a supply of water for a Saw Mill, and is bordered by a rich intervale and meadows.

Another small stream, called Hop Brook, from the abundance of wild hops which formerly grew on its banks, rises in Shrewsbury, crosses the southwest angle of this town, furnishing water for two Saw Mills and one Grist Mill, and falls into the Assabeth, soon after that river enters the town. It appears, therefore, that all the waters of Northborough fall into the Assabeth, which conveys them to the Merrimack between Chelmsford and Tewksbury.

The two principal ponds in Northborough are the Little Chauncey, in the southeastern part of the town, containing sixty five acres, and Solomon's Pond, in the northeastern part, containing twenty six acres. Little Chauncey takes its name from Great Chauncey, in Westborough, with which it is connected by a small stream. It is a beautiful sheet of water, well stored with fish, its borders in part fringed with woods, while to the east, it opens towards cultivated fields. Solomon's Pond, so named from Solomon, an Indian, who was drowned in it, is not destitute of beauty, and is encompassed by a tract of excellent land.

The soil is in general rich and productive, the poorest being, as Whitney justly observes, that "which appears as we travel the great road." In the northern part of the town, the land is rocky and hard, though it produces good crops of hay and grain. In the middle and southern parts the land is more level, and if not more productive, is cultivated with much less labor and expense.

Roads, &c.—The principal road is the old Worcester Post road, which passes through the middle of the town, about forty rods south of the Meeting House. The distance to Boston from this town is 34 miles; to Worcester 10 miles. Four Stages, furnishing a daily Mail from the east and from the west, pass on this road every day, Sundays excepted.

The old County road from Framingham to Worcester, also leads

through the south part of the town; and the Worcester Turnpike crosses the southwest angle, passing one house only in Northborough. The roads from Lancaster to this place, one of which passes the Meeting House in Berlin, and that from Boylston, are much travelled. The distance to Lancaster is 10 miles; to Boylston 6; to Westborough 4½ miles.

The highways are kept in repair by an annual tax of from $500 to $800.

Mills, Manufactories, &c.—Northborough contains at present four Grist Mills, five Saw Mills, two Carding Machines, a manufactory for Hoes and Scythes; large and commodious works recently established by Capt. Thomas W. Lyon, for manufacturing Cotton Machinery; an extensive Tannery owned by Phinehas and Joseph Davis, Esquires, whose annual sales of leather amount to $20,000. There are also six Coopers, four Blacksmiths, one Saddle and Harness Maker, one Book Binder, three Wheelwrights, eight or ten Shoemakers, who, besides supplying the wants of the town, manufacture about 4000 pairs of shoes annually for a foreign market. The Cotton Factory, built in 1814, by the Northborough Manufacturing Company, at an expense of about $30,000, was lately sold at auction, and is now in the possession of Rogerson & Co. of Boston, and Isaac Davis, Esq. and Mr. Asaph Rice, of this town. It stands on the river Assabeth, which furnishes a sufficient supply of water during the principal part of the season; and contains over 700 spindles for Cotton, and 100 for Woollen, 10 looms, a fulling mill, carding machine, &c. and manufactures 80,000 yards of cloth annually.

There are in the town, two stores, furnished with a good assortment of English and West India Goods, the one kept by Gale & Davis; the other by Rice, Farnsworth, & Co.

Population, Deaths, &c.—At the time of the ordination of Rev. Mr. Martyn, (1746) there were 40 families in the place; the number had increased to 82 families at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Whitney, (1767); and, in 1796, to more than 110 families. By the census of 1810, the number of inhabitants was 794; by that of 1820, 1018, making an increase of 224 in ten years. By a census taken the last winter, however, and which it is believed is very nearly accurate, the whole number of inhabitants was only 946, of whom 488 were males, and 458 females.

In the autumn of 1746, the year that Rev. Mr. Martyn was ordained, and for several following years, particularly in 1749 and 1750, this society was visited by a very mortal sickness among

children, by which the growth of the society must have been very sensibly checked, and which must have been attended with circumstances of peculiar distress.*

Sixty children, out of a population which could not have much exceeded three hundred, fell victims to the desolating pestilence; and, with the exception of one adult, (Benjamin Rugg, a stranger,) were the first persons that were buried in the new church yard.†

This was the last sweeping, mortal sickness, with which this place has been visited.

Since the great sicknesss, in the years 1749 and 1750, no town in this vicinity has been more exempt from wasting, mortal distempers. The number of deaths from 1780, to 1800, including a period of twenty years, amounted to only 146, averaging a little more than 7 in a year. During the first twenty five years of the present century, the number was 282. The average number for the last ten years has been about 11¼ annually, in a population of nearly a thousand souls. The whole number of deaths from 1780, to the present date, (June, 1826) is 450; of whom seventy eight were 70 years and upwards; forty three, 80 years and upwards; seventeen, 90 years and upwards; one (Wid. Hannah Fay‡) in her hundredth year; and one (Deac. Jonathan Livermore§) one hundred years and seven months. There are now living in this town, five or six

* The sickness which prevailed in 1746, Capt. Timothy Brigham informs me, was the dysentery, then called, "the fever and flux." Capt. B. then a child of 10 years old, lost a sister, and was himself sick of the disease. He thinks that as many as 30 children died that year, in this place. He recollects being attended in his sickness by Doct. Benjamin Gott, of Marlborough. The sickness of 1749 and 1750, was the "throat distemper," as it was termed, which, for many years after its first appearance in New England, proved such a desolating scourge.

† The old burying ground, in which many of the first settlers of Northborough were interred, is east of the road leading to Westborough, a little south of the dwelling house of Mr. William Maynard. It is now overgrown with trees and brush.

‡ Widow Hannah Fay was a daughter of Nathaniel Oaks, was married to Gershom Fay, father of the late Thaddeus Fay, and died, March 8, 1806, aged 100.

§ Deac. Livermore came from Watertown about A. D. 1720, and settled on the Brown farm, so called, where David Dinsmore now lives. He was the first Parish Clerk in this place, which office he held many years. He died April 26, 1801, aged 101. A short time after he was 100 years old, he rode on horseback from his house to a military review, near the middle of the town, the distance of three miles, and returned without fatigue. He possessed uncommon learning for his time, was an accurate surveyor, and an excellent penman, owing to which circumstance, the early records of the town appear in a remarkably fine state.

persons over eighty years; and one, (Capt. Timothy Brigham,*) in his ninety first year. One couple (Capt. Amos Rice† and his wife) still survive, who were joined in marriage before the death of Rev. Mr. Martyn, who baptised their first child. They were married May 8th, 1766, and have lived together more than sixty years.

The average number of births for a year, has been, of late, about thirty; which, deducting the deaths, will give an annual increase of from fifteen to twenty souls.

Civil History.—Nothing has been found on record relating to the part which this town bore in the old *French wars*, as we have been accustomed to hear them called by our aged fathers. We learn, however, from the few who survive of the generation then on the stage of active life, that this small district was not backward in furnishing men to join the several expiditions, which were undertaken for the conquest of the French in Canada.

Eliphalet Warren, John Carruth, and Adam Fay, joined the expedition to Halifax, in 1754. In the following year, Benjamin Flood and Eber Eager, the latter of whom did not live to return, were at Crown point. In 1758, the eight following persons were with the army under General Abercrombie, at his defeat before Ticonderoga. Capt. Timothy Brigham, [now living and who retains a perfect recollection of the scenes he passed through in this ill-fated expedition,] Eliphalet Stone, Samuel Stone, [who died on his return,] Benjamin Flood, Josiah Bowker, Samuel Morse, Gideon Howard, and Joel Rice. Capt. Brigham says that the attack upon the French lines commenced at 5 o'clock, A. M. and lasted till 7 o'clock, P. M.; and that over 1900 of our men were missing at the calling of the rolls that evening. Capt. B. says that after this repulse, the army retreated to Lake George, soon after which, the company to

*Capt. Timothy Brigham is a son of Jesse, who was a son of Jonathan, who was a son of Thomas Brigham, one of the early settlers of Marlborough, He was present at the defeat of the English, under Abercrombie, before Ticonderoga, in 1758, and Lieutenant of the company of minute men that marched down to Cambridge on the memorable 19th of April, 1775. Jonathan Brigham was in the Indian fight, at Lancaster, (now Sterling) Aug. 19, 1707, and stood next to Richard Singletary, who was killed in the action. This fact, Capt. B. had from his own mouth.

†Capt. Amos Rice is a son of Jacob, who was a son of Jacob, who was a son of Edward, one of the 13 original petitioners for the Plantation of Marlborough. Benjamin, another son of Edward, was the father of Deac. Matthias Rice, and of Simeon Rice, late of this town, and of Zerubbabel Rice, late of Marlborough. Tradition says, that the first person by the name of Rice, who emigrated to New England, had eight sons, all of whom lived to be 90 years old and upwards.

which he belonged (Capt. Stephen Maynard's of Westborough) was dismissed and returned home.

There is one man, now living in this town, at the age of 88, nearly, [Lieut. Abraham Munroe] who was at Halifax, in the regiment of Maj. Rogers, of Londonderry, N. H. in the year 1757, and, at the taking of Ticonderoga under Gen. Amherst, in 1759. Mr. Munroe had there the rank of Ensign; and, in the following year, received a Lieutenancy. He served in the regiment of Col. Saltonstal, of Haverhill; and, at the departure of our army for Montreal, received orders to remain at the head of a detachment of men, for the purpose of completing the repairs of the fortifications at Crown Point. Lieut. Munroe continued at Ticonderoga, till his discharge, in May, 1763, under Capt. Omsbury, or Amsbury, to whom the command of the fort had been committed.

Several other persons belonging to this town, whose names I have not learned, were in service at different times during the French wars, some of whom did not live to return.

The following particulars have been collected relating to the part which this town bore in the burdens and privations of the revolutionary war.

It appears from the town records, that the inhabitants of this town, took an early and decided stand in defence of the liberties of our country. So early as March, 22d, 1773, more than two years before hostilities commenced, a number of spirited resolutions were passed at a district meeting, called for the purpose, among which were the following:

"2. Voted, as the opinion of this district, that it is the indispensable duty of all men and all bodies of men to unite and strenuously to oppose by all lawful ways and means, such unjust and unrighteous encroachments, made or attempted to be made upon their just rights; and that it is our duty earnestly to endeavor to hand those rights down inviolate to our posterity, as they were handed to us by our worthy ancestors.

"3. Voted, that the thanks of this district be given to the town of Boston for their friendly, seasonable and necessary intelligence; and that they be desired to keep their watch, and guard against all such invaders and incroaches for the future.

"4. Voted, that Capt. Bez. Eager, Doct. Stephen Ball, and Mr. Timothy Fay, be a committee to make answer to the committee of corres., at Boston, informing them of the opinion of this district in this matter."

In August, of the following year, eight months before the war commenced, at a special meeting called for the purpose, the district passed the following vote.—"That we are determined to defend our charter rights and privileges, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, and that the town desire the committee of correspondence,* to write to their brethren in Boston, and inform them thereof."

In November, 1774, the district voted to appropriate money in the treasury to buy one hundred pounds of powder; three hundred pounds of lead, and two hundred and forty flints; and on June 3d, 1776, it was resolved, "that it was the mind of this town to be independent of Great Britain, in case the Continental Congress think proper; and that we are ready with our lives and fortunes, if in Providence called, to defend the same."

Some time before the war broke out, a company of fifty minute men was raised in this town, under the command of the late Capt. Samuel Wood, who held themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning, whenever and wherever hostilities should commence.† At length the memorable 19th of April arrived, on which day, the first blood in our Revolutionary struggle was shed, at Lexington and Concord. On the same day, before one o'clock, P. M. the tidings reached this place. The company of minute men belonging to this town was collecting at the time to listen to an occasional patriotic discourse from Rev. Mr. Whitney. They were directed without a moment's delay, to put themselves in readiness to march; and in three or four hours from the time when the news arrived, they had taken leave of their families and were paraded in the yard of Capt. Woods' house, whence (the Rev. Mr. Whitney having in a fervent prayer commended them to the protection of the God of armies,) they immediately set out on their march for the field of danger and of blood.‡

*The following persons were a standing committee of Correspondence, in 1774. Bezaleel Eager, Seth Rice, Jr. Levi Brigham, Gillam Bass, and John Ball. In the following year, the ever memorable 1775, there were seven on the committee of correspondence, viz. Thadeus Fay, John Ball, Joel Rice, Amos Rice, [now living] Artemas Brigham, Jethro Peters, and Nathan Green.

† April 10th, 1775, the town voted to pay fifty minute men one shilling each, for each half day they shall meet to learn the Military art, for sixteen half days; and granted £40 for that purpose. The town also voted that Mr. Timothy Brigham, Constable, pay to Henry Gardner, Esq. the Province tax, which he has now in his hands, for the year 1773, and the District will indemnify him. Also Voted, to indemnify the Assessors for not making the province tax for the year 1774.

‡ Of the fifty men belonging to this company, the following persons are now living in this town. Capt. Timothy Brigham, then the Lieut. of the

Nor did the spirited resolutions, above adverted to, end in idle words. They were the result of reflection and patriotic principle; and they led to the cheerful endurance of privations and hardships, of which the descendants can probably form no adequate conception.

At one time five, and soon after three, at another five, at another seven, and on one occasion seventeen men, were called for from this small town by the General Court, and were marched in some instances, several hundred miles, to mingle in the scenes of war.*

In the spring of 1781, agreeably to a resolve of the General Court, this town was divided into eight classes, each class being required to furnish a man to serve in the Continental Army for the term of three years, or during the war. And what is worthy of remark, as it is an evidence of the patriotic spirit which prevailed among this people in the preceeding autumn, viz. December 28, 1780, the town, taking into consideration the hardships undergone by those who had entered into the service of their country, and especially the losses they had sustained, by being paid in a depreciated currency, generously voted to raise their quota of men, and to pay and clothe them at their own expense, allowing them 40 shillings each, per month, in hard money, and £21 per year, also in hard money, in addition to their clothes.†

Six men more were called for from this town in the following summer; five to go to West Point, and one to Rhode Island, who were accordingly raised, and the town granted £122 5*s.* in hard money, (or $407,50,) to pay the same. At the same time, they were required to purchase, for the use of the army, 3518*lbs.* of beef, for which the town granted £77, in hard money (or $256,66.) The whole amount granted at this meeting, and which went to the support of the war, was therefore $664,16 in hard money; which, considering the population of the town and the value of hard money at that period, was a great sum and must have been felt as a heavy burden. Previous to the June, 1778, it appears from the town

company, Capt. Amos Rice, Mr. Isaac How, Mr. Joseph Sever, Mr. Reuben Babcock, and Mr. Nathan Rice. Capt. Samuel Wood, the commander of the company, died September 21, 1818, aged 75 years. He was present, and received a slight wound, at the battle of Bunker Hill. The Ensign of the company was Mr. Thomas Sever, now of Townsend, in this state.

* "July 13th, 1780, the town voted and granted the sum of ten thousand pounds to pay seventeen men hired into the service, nine for the term of six months, and eight for the term of three months."

† Town Records, I. p. 212.

records, that this town had expended in money and service towards carrying on the war £1474 14*s.* 1*d.* in a depreciated currency probably, the precise value of which, it is difficult now to determine.*

Such, we presume is no more than a fair specimen of the burdens borne by the community in support of the war of our Independence, and of the spirit with which they were borne.

In many, very many instances indeed, the people were impoverished and brought low. But they were not disheartened; and, by the smiles of a merciful Providence, their efforts were crowned with complete success. Let us who have entered into their labors not forget what we owe to that far-famed generation, who supported the privations and hardships of a long and harrassing conflict, in support of our cherished liberties.†

The number was small of those who had refused to embark in the cause of liberty, the names of four only being recorded as absentees, whose estates were confiscated near the close of the war.‡

The patriotism of two others was indeed suspected, and they were subjected to a good deal of inconvenience in consequence of it.§

* The town records contain a list of the names of 90 persons (probably the whole number who paid taxes) with the amount contributed by each.

"October 30, 1780, the town granted £6660 to purchase beef for the army." This I suppose was when the depreciation of money was nearly, or quite at the lowest ebb, about which time, £2933 6*s.* 8*d.* were granted to Rev. Mr. Whitney by an unanimous vote of the town, in addition to his yearly salary.

"May 17, 1781, the town granted the sum of £3300 0*s.* 0*d.* to pay for three horses for the use of the Continental army."

† Among the survivors of the soldiers of the revolution, in this town, five received pensions from the U. States, agreeably to the law passed, April, 1818.

From all these, however, with the exception of two, one of whom has since died, their pensions were withdrawn, after the modification of the law, in 1820. Since that time, two of the number, reduced to poverty, have recovered their pensions; and the only remaining one from whom it was withdrawn, and who, depending on the pension, had involved himself in debt in erecting a small building for his accommodation, has been compelled to part with his snug little farm, and is now, in his old age, reduced to the very verge of absolute want. Such, so far as I have witnessed it, has been the operation of the laws respecting pensions to Revolutionary Soldiers. It may be remarked moreover, that the two to whom the pensions were continued, had been a town charge, and were not regarded as very valuable members of the community.

‡These were James Eager and his son, John Eager; and Ebenezer Cutler, and Michael Martyn, sons in law of the late Capt. James Eager, of this town.

§ These were John Taylor, and Sylvanus Billings. The former, a gentleman of handsome property and who had been one of the leading men of the town; the latter also a man of considerable estate.

After the close of the war, the embarrassments arising from the want of a circulating medium, when almost all were deeply involved in debt, caused much uneasiness, and led the people to devise measures for their removal. August 7th, 1786, Isaac Davis was chosen as a delegate to attend a County Convention, at Leicester, on the 15th inst. to whom the following, among other instructions, were given by a committee appointed by the town. The delegate was to use his influence "that the Convention petition his Excellency, the Governor, and Council, to call the General Court together, in the month of October next, at fartherest; and that the Convention present a humble and decent petition to the General Court to set up and establish a mint in the Commonwealth, &c." Complaints were also made of the salaries of the civil list, being so high, and of various other grievances under which the people labored.* There was nothing, however, of the spirit of rebellion or insubordination in the resolutions that were passed at this meeting, or in the conduct which followed; and though it appears from the representations of all, that the people generally were reduced to the greatest straits, yet only three or four individuals were found willing to join in the rebellion of that year, and to seek redress by measures of violence.†

Schools, &c.—Previous to the year 1766, I can find on record, no appropriations made for the education of youth. But I am informed that several instructors had, before that period, been em-

* There prevailed, at this time, very generally through the country, the most violent prejudices against the profession of the law. One of the instructions given to the delegate, at this time, was, that he was to use his influence in the convention, by petitioning and remonstrating to the General Court, "that the whole order of Lawyers be annihilated; for we conceive them not only to be building themselves upon the ruins of the distressed, but said order has increased, and is daily increasing, far beyond any other set or order of men among us, in numbers and affluence; and we apprehend they may become ere long somewhat dangerous to the rights and liberties of the people."

† The following is a list of the names of those who have represented this town in the General Court, from 1775, to the present time.

Col. Levi Brigham, from 1775, to 1777.—John Ball, 1778, 1782, and 1785.—Deac. Paul Newton, 1779, and 1780.—Deac. Seth Rice, 1783.—Deac. Isaac Davis, seven years—between 1787 and 1798.—Deac. Nahum Fay, 1800 and 1801.—James Keyes, Esq. eighteen years, from 1802, to the present time.

From the above account, it appears that this town has been represented thirty six years since the commencement of the Revolutionary war.

The following persons have been commissioned Justices of the peace. The first commission is dated July 3, 1793. Nahum Fay, Seth Grout, Isaac Davis, Stephen Williams, James Keyes, Phineas Davis, and Cyrus Gale. Of this number, three, Seth Grout, Isaac Davis and James Keyes, have since deceased.

ployed to teach, at private houses, in different parts of the town, and who were paid by the voluntary contributions of the parents. The first school house that was erected in this town, stood on the meeting house common, whence it was afterwards removed, and now forms part of the dwelling house of Mr. Joel Bartlett.* In 1770, the district was divided into four squadrons; but it was not till 1780, that the town passed a vote to build school houses in the several squadrons, and granted money for that purpose. The town granted £4000 for building four school houses, which, at the time it was expended, amounted to only £52 6*s.* 8*d.* to which they added £110 6*s.* 8*d.* amounting to £163 13*s.* 4*d.*

Since that period two new School districts have been formed; so that there are now six districts in the town, in each of which, a school is kept from eight to twelve weeks, both winter and summer.

The following is an abstract of the return of the School committee, made in May last, to the General Court.

Amount paid for public Instruction, $600.
Time of keeping school in the year, 6 months each district.

Males under 7 years,	47	Females under 7 years,	39
From 7 to 14,	98	From 7 to 14,	75
From 14 and upwards,	68	From 14 and upwards,	47
Males,	213	Females,	161
			213
		Total,	374

There are, in this town, three respectable Libraries, containing in all about 500 volumes, exclusive of the Juvenile Library, which contains nearly 150 volumes, suited to children and youth.

The Juvenile Library, commenced in 1824, is supported by an annual contribution, and, under a few simple regulations, is accessible to all the children and youth, over the age of 7 years, residing in the town.

Many young men, educated in our schools, have been employed as Instructors, both here and in other towns, and have generally proved worthy of the confidence reposed in them.

Besides several professional gentlemen educated in our schools, and in the neighboring Academies, twelve young men have received a public education, eight of whom are graduates of Harvard

* Mr. Thomas Goodenow was the first Instructor, supported at the expense of the town. Mr. James Hart, a foreigner, was employed about this time, (1770) and is frequently spoken of as the father of the many excellent penmen for which this town has, in former years, been famed.

University, at Cambridge, one of Brown University, and one each, of Yale, Dartmouth, and Williams' Colleges.

Their names, professions, &c. are as follow:

1. Jonathan Livermore, son of the late Deac. Jonathan Livermore, was graduated at Harvard University, in 1760; settled in the ministry at Wilton, N. H. in 1763; was dismissed, but remained in that place, where he died, July, 1809, in the 80th year of his age.

2. Ebenezer Rice, son of the late Simon Rice,* was graduated at Harvard University, in 1760; was a Physician, and a justice of the peace, in Marlborough; afterwards removed to Barre, where he died.

3. Jacob Rice, son of the late Jacob Rice, was graduated at Harvard University, in 1765; settled in Henniker, N. H. being the first minister in that place; was dismissed, on account of ill health; was installed at Brownfield, Oxford County, Me. where he remained till his death, which took place suddenly, Feb. 1, 1824, Lord's Day, having preached to his people in the morning.

4. Elijah Brigham, son of the late Col. Levi Brigham, was graduated at Dartmouth College, in 1778; commenced the study of Divinity, which he soon relinquished, and engaged in mercantile business with his brother in law, Breck Parkman, Esq. of Westborough: in 1795, he was appointed one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas; for several years was a Senator and Counsellor of this Commonwealth, a Justice through the State, and a Representative of this District in the Congress of the United States, from 1810 to the time of his death. Judge Brigham died suddenly, at Washington, Feb. 22, 1816, aged 64.

5. John Taylor, son of the late John Taylor, was graduated at Harvard University, in 1786; is now a Counsellor at Law, in Northampton, and one of the Representatives of that town in the General Court.

6. Peter Whitney, son of Rev. Peter Whitney, was graduated at Harvard University, in 1791; now the minister of Quincy, in this State, where he was ordained, Feb. 5, 1800.

7. Henry Gassett, son of Henry Gassett, was graduated at Harvard University, in 1795; is now a merchant, in Boston.

8. Israel Munroe, son of Abraham Munroe, was graduated at Harvard University, in 1800; was for some years a Counsellor at Law, in Boston; he now resides in the city of New York.

* Simon Rice, the father of Dr. Ebenezer Rice, was a brother of the late Deac. Matthias Rice, of this town. He lived just within the limits of Northborough, near the dwelling house of Mr. Ephraim Barnard.

9. Warren Fay, son of Nahum Fay, Esq. was graduated at Harvard University, in 1807; ordained at Brimfield, Nov. 3, 1808; dismissed, June 26, 1811; installed at Harvard, Jan. 26, 1814; dismissed, at his own request, Jan. 5, 1820; installed as minister of the First Congregational Church and Society in Charlestown, Feb. 23, 1820.

10. Luther Rice, son of Capt. Amos Rice, was graduated at Williams College, in 1810; ordained at Salem, Feb. 6, 1812, as a Missionary; sailed for Calcutta in company with Messrs. Hall & Judson, Feb. 18, 1812. Soon after his arrival he changed his views on the subject of baptism; was baptised by immersion; and, in the autumn of 1813, returned to this country. He now resides in Washington, D. C. and is Treasurer of Columbia College.

11. John Davis, son of the late Isaac Davis, Esq. was graduated at Yale College, in 1812; is now a Counsellor at Law, in Worcester, and represents this District in the Congress of the U. S.

12. Isaac Davis, son of Phineas Davis, Esq. was graduated at Brown University, in 1822; is now an Attorney at Law, in Worcester.

There are, at present, two physicians in this place, Docts. Stephen Ball, Sen'r. and Jun'r. The only other physician who made Northborough his permanent residence, was the late Doct. Stephen Ball, father of Stephen Ball, Sen'r. There has never been a lawyer residing in the place, with the exception of John Winslow, Esq. who remained here only a few years. And, it is a singular fact, that with this exception, and that of the three successive ministers, all of whom were educated at Harvard University, none of the permanent inhabitants of the town, at this or at any former period, received a public and liberal education.

Ecclesiastical, &c.—Measures were taken immediately after Northborough became a separate precinct, to support the public worship of God, by building a church, and procuring a minister.

December 31, 1744, the parish voted to build a meeting house, and to raise £50, lawful money, for that purpose. This led, as frequently happens, to a controversy respecting the location of the edifice, which, after several months continuance, was finally submitted to the arbitration of three respectable men from the neighboring towns, Capt. Daniel Heywood, of Worcester, Capt. John Haynes, of Sudbury, and Capt. Thomas Hapgood, of Shrewsbury, who fixed on the spot, near the site of the present church. The land on which the house was erected, was given to the town for

the use of its inhabitants, by Capt. James Eager, by a deed bearing date April 26, 1745, "so long as the said inhabitants of the north precinct shall improve said land for the standing of a meeting house for the public worship of God."

The committee reported, April 24, 1745; and, on April 30, only 6 days after, the house was raised; a vote having previously passed, that "every man should provide for the raising as he was spirited."*

New difficulties now arose respecting the settlement of a minister. Several candidates had been employed; and, as usually happens in such cases, the minds of the people were divided between them. Under these circumstances, the precinct appointed a fast for the 12th Sept. 1745, and sent for five of the neighboring ministers "to give them their advice who they should apply to for candidates, in order to a choice."

The following gentlemen attended on the occasion; viz. Rev. Mr. Prentice, Rev. Mr. Parkman, Rev. Mr. Cushing, and Rev. Mr. Morse, who recommended that the parish should hear a few sabbaths each, two candidates from Cambridge, Rev. Mr. Rand, and Mr. Jedediah Adams, in order to a choice. Mr. John Martyn was one of the candidates, who had previously been employed by the parish; and although they complied with the advice of the neighboring ministers, so far as to hear the other candidates two sabbaths each, yet on the 19th of December, 1745, "Mr. John Martyn was chosen by a clear vote"; and a salary was offered him of £50 in bills of the last emission, (which was at 7*s.* 6*d.* per ounce,) or £200 in bills of the old form and tenor, after the rate of silver at 30*s.* per ounce, or in other bills of public credit, equivalent to the said sum, and to be paid at two payments annually." Besides this, a settlement of $300, old tenor, was voted by the parish.

Mr. Martyn accepted the invitation, and was ordained, May 21, 1746, O. S. a church having been gathered on the same day, consisting of ten brethren, besides the pastor elect, four of whom, it is worthy of notice, were foreigners.†

* The dimensions of the first meeting house were 46 feet by 36. The whole cost of finishing the outside was £443 11*s.* 2*d.* The building committee consisted of Capt. James Eager, Wm. Holloway, and Jesse Brigham. The house was framed by Daniel Hemminway. The price of labor at this time, was, in the old tenor currency, for a man per day scoring timber, 6*s.* for hewing, 6*s.* 6*d.* for carpenter's work, 8*s.* White pine timber, 3 pence per foot; for oak, 2½ pence, running measure. "Allowed Jotham Bartlett £2 10*s.* for two barrels of cider at the raising of the meeting house."

† The following are the names of the persons who subscribed to the church

The ordaining council consisted of the following pastors, with their delegates:

Rev. Mr. Parkman, of Westborough, who preached on the occasion, from Heb. xiii. 17; Rev. Mr. Prentice, of Lancaster, who gave the charge; Rev. Mr. Cushing, of Shrewsbury, who expressed the fellowship of the Churches; Rev. Mr. Loring, of Sudbury; Rev. Mr. Hall, of Sutton; Rev. Mr. Gardner, of Stow; and Rev. Mr. Barrett, of Hopkinton.

Although the ceremonies of the ordination took place in the meeting house, yet it appears from the town records that it was in a very unfinished state, having neither pulpit, galleries, glass windows, nor even permanent floors. It was not till June, in the following year, that a vote could be obtained "to glaze the meeting house and lay the floors;" and not till the next autumn, that the pulpit and gallery stairs were built.* This was indeed the day of small things; and when we compare the accommodations of the spacious and elegant temple since erected near the spot, with the loose floors, and rough seats, and open windows of the house in which our fathers worshipped, we shall do well to inquire whether we surpass them as much in the punctuality of our attendance, and the spirituality of our worship, as in the beauty and accommodations of the place of our solemnities.

Northborough became an incorporated district, Jan. 24, 1766, not long after which, viz. April 30, 1767, the Rev. John Martyn, after a short illness, departed this life, in the 61st year of his age, and the 21st of his ministry. His wife died, Sept. 8, 1775, aged 70.

Mr. Martyn was a son of Capt. Edward Martyn, of Boston, where he spent his early life, under the care of an excellent mother, who had been left a widow in easy circumstances, some time previous to young Mr. Martyn's entering college. Mr. Martyn was graduated at Harvard University, in 1724. For several years after he left college, he devoted his attention to secular pursuits, and was for some time an inhabitant of Harvard, in this county.*

covenant at this time.—John Martyn, the pastor elect; Ephraim Allen; Joshua Dowsing, (sometimes written Townsend) from England; John McAllester, from Ireland; Jonathan Livermore, (afterwards Deac. Livermore;) Gershom Fay; Matthias Rice, (afterwards Deac. Rice;) Samuel Allen; Jacob Shepherd, a foreigner; John Carruth, also a foreigner; and Silas Fay.

* Rev. Mr. Martyn was married to Miss Mary Marret, of Cambridge, by whom he had the following children: John, who lived in this town; Mary, married to a Minot, of Concord; Michael, who was married to Zilpah, daughter of James Eager, and lived in this town till the commencement of the rev-

At length, at the age of 40, he directed his attention to Theological pursuits, and became an able, faithful, and useful minister. He possessed, in a large measure, the confidence and affections of his flock, was honored in his life, and deeply lamented at his death.

Rev. Peter Whitney was the only person employed as a candidate in this place between the death of Mr. Martyn and his own ordination.

Mr. Martyn died the last day of April; and, after an interval of only 6 months and 4 days, that is, on the 4th of the following November, his successor was inducted into the office of a christian minister.*

The services at his ordination were performed by the following persons. Rev. Mr. Morse, of the second church in Shrewsbury, (now Boylston) made the Introductory Prayer; Rev. Mr. Whitney, of Petersham, the father of the candidate, preached from Matthew, xxviii. 19, 20.; Rev. Mr. Parkman, of Westborough, made the consecrating prayer, and gave the charge; Rev. Mr. Smith, of Marlborough, expressed the fellowship of the churches; and Rev. Mr. Bridge, of Chelmsford, made the concluding prayer. The other ministers on the ordaining council, were, Rev. Mr. Stone, of Southborough; Rev. Mr. Goss, of Bolton; Rev. Mr. Morrell, of Wilmington; Rev. Mr. Davis, of Holden; Rev. Mr. Woodward, of Weston; Rev. Mr. Clark, of Lexington; Rev. Mr. Sumner, of Shrewsbury; and Rev. Mr. Cummings, of Billerica.

The salary of Rev. Mr. Whitney was £66 13*s.* 4*d.* with a settlement of £160, lawful money.

Rev. Peter Whitney was the son of Rev. Aaron Whitney, the first minister of Petersham, was born Sept. 17, 1744. He was graduated at Harvard University, 1762, where he pursued his Theological studies preparatory to entering on the work of the ministry.

Distinguished for the urbanity of his manners, easy and familiar in his intercourse with his people, hospitable to strangers, and always ready to give a hearty welcome to his numerous friends; punctual to his engagements, observing an exact method in the distribution of his time, having a time for every thing and doing every thing in its time, without hurry or confusion; conscientious in the

olutionary war; Richard, who settled in Windsor, Conn.; and Nathaniel, who removed to one of the Southern States. Widow Abigail Fay, is the daughter of John, abovenamed, and is now living in this place.

* Mr. Whitney began to preach in Northborough, June 7, 1767, and gave his answer to settle the 12th of the following October.

discharge of his duties as a christian minister, catholic in his principles and in his conduct, always taking an interest in whatever concerned the prosperity of the town and the interests of religion, he was, for many years, the happy minister of a kind and an affectionate people. At length, having continued in the work of the ministry almost half a century, he suddenly departed this life, February 29, 1816, in the 72d year of his age, and the 49th of his useful ministry.*

Mr. Whitney was married to Miss Julia Lambert, of Reading, in this state, by whom he had ten children who lived to man's estate, eight of whom still survive.

Mrs. Whitney survived her husband nearly five years, and died at Quincy, while on a visit to her children, Jan. 10, 1821, aged 79 years. All who knew Madam Whitney will bear testimony to her worth; and admit that she possessed, in no common measure, dignity of manners, sprightliness of mind, and goodness of heart. She was indeed a most pleasant companion and a most valuable friend.

The writer of these sketches was the only candidate employed by their society after the death of his immediate predecessor; and after a probation of about four months, was ordained their minister, Oct. 30, 1816.† His salary is $600 per annum.

* Rev. Mr. Martyn left none of his writings in print. His successor made himself extensively known by his History of Worcester County; a work highly valuable for the facts it records, many of which would probably have been lost, had they not, with great pains and fidelity, been collected and embodied in this work. It is a work, the value of which will not be diminished by the more minute histories now publishing in the Worcester Magazine and Historical Journal.

The other printed writings of Mr. Whitney, so far as they have come to my knowledge, are—Two Discourses, delivered July 4, 1774; a Sermon, delivered at a Lecture, July 4, 1776, on publishing the Declaration of Independence; a half Century Sermon, preached June 1, 1796; a Sermon at the ordination of his son, Rev. Peter Whitney, of Quincy, February 5, 1800; a Sermon preached at Shrewsbury, February 16, 1810, at the funeral of Mrs. Lucy Sumner, wife of the Rev. Joseph Sumner, D. D.; and a notice of a remarkable apple tree, in the first volume of the Memoirs of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The publication of the History of Worcester County recommended the author to the notice of the Massachusetts Historical Society, who elected him a member of that association.

† The ordination services were performed by the following persons:—Rev. Mr. Whitney, of Quincy, made the Introductory Prayer; Rev. Prof. Ware, of Harvard University, preached from Jer. xv. 19; Rev. Pres. Kirkland, of H. U. made the Consecrating Prayer; Rev. Dr. Saunders, of Medfield, gave the charge; Rev. John E. Abbott, of Salem, gave the Right hand of Fellowship; Rev. Dr. Puffer, of Berlin, made the Concluding Prayer. Besides the above, the following Ministers were on the Council: Rev. Dr. Sumner, of Shrewsbury; Rev. Dr. Bancroft, of Worcester; Rev. Dr. Thayer, of

It appears, therefore, that from the ordination of Rev. Mr. Martyn, in 1746, to the present time, a period of 80 years, this christian society has been destitute of a settled minister only about 14 months; a fact highly creditable to the members of this society, as an evidence of their regard for the institutions of religion, and of the union and harmony which have long subsisted among them. And it may justly be considered, that the town is indebted to the spirit of union which has hitherto so generally prevailed among us, for the respectable rank which it now maintains. It would be easy, however painful, to predict the consequences of the prevalence of an opposite spirit. Large and opulent societies can bear to be reduced by division. But in societies small as this, and whose resources are no greater than ours, union should be the watchword of all who wish well to the cause of human improvement.

It is worthy of remark, that there has never been but one religious society in this town, and that only a very few families have, at any time, withdrawn themselves from the Congregational society. Four or five families of the Baptist denomination usually attend public worship in the adjoining towns. The first person of this denomination in this town, was Thomas Billings, who joined the Baptist Society, in Leicester, in 1766.

The increase of wealth and population, and a regard for the institutions of religion, led the inhabitants of this town, in the spring and summer of 1808, to erect a new and more spacious house for public worship.

The new Church is 56 ft. square, with a projection of 34 ft. by 15, surmounted by a tower, and cost, including the bell, $11,408 04. The cost of the bell was $510 00; its weight about 1200 lbs.

The proportions of this building are much admired by persons of good taste; and its location is such, that it appears to great advantage from the main road. May it long stand; and be to this Society a bond of union, and the place whither they shall delight to bring their stated offerings of prayer and praise.*

Lancaster; Rev. Mr. Packard, of Marlborough; Rev. Mr. Rockwood, of Westborough; Rev. Mr. Cotton, of Boylston; Rev. Mr. Frothingham, of Boston; Rev. Mr. Ripley, of Waltham; and Rev. Mr. Damon, of Lunenburg. Rev. J. Allen was born in Medfield, August 15, 1790, and was graduated at Harvard University, in 1811.

* The committee for building the new meeting house consisted of the following persons; James Keyes, Esq. Stephen Williams, Esq. Isaac Davis, Esq. Hollon Maynard, Col. William Eager, Seth Grout, Esq. Asaph Rice, and Phineas Davis, Esq. The business was committed to a sub-committee, composed of three; S. Williams, Esq. Asaph Rice, and Phineas Davis, Esq. The house was built by Col. Eames, of Buckland, and Capt. Brooks, of Princeton.

In the summer of 1822, a neat and handsome Town House was built, at the cost of about $1000, which is used for town meetings, singing schools, and various other purposes.

This town has been peculiarly unfortunate in the destruction of buildings by fire. No fewer than ten dwelling houses, in this small town, seven of them large, two story buildings, have been burnt to the ground. Besides these, two school houses, one grist mill, one saw mill, and one shoe-makers's shop, have fallen a prey to the same devouring element.

In respect to expenses incurred for the support of paupers, the town has for the most part been highly favored. Since the commencement of the present year, only two persons have been a town charge, the whole expense of maintaining whom, for a year, is less than one hundred dollars.

Some additional particulars relating to the ecclesiastical and secular affairs of this town, it may be proper to include in these historical sketches. Owing to the destruction of the church records, in the year 1780, when the dwelling house of Rev. Mr. Whitney, with most of its contents, was destroyed by fire, we have no means of ascertaining the number of baptisms and of persons, who joined the church, as well as many other particulars, which it might be interesting to know, of what took place previous to that date. We learn, however, from Rev. Mr. Parkman's account of Westborough, that, in 1767, the year of the Rev. Mr. Martyn's death, that the number of communicants was forty four, 21 males, and 23 females. The whole number of persons admitted into the church, during the ministry of Mr. Whitney, as nearly as can be ascertained, was 204. Since the death of Mr. Whitney, 54 have been added to the church, exclusive of such as have been received by recommendation from other churches. Besides these, 84 persons, during the ministry of Mr. Whitney, owned the baptismal covenant.

The number of persons baptised, from 1780 to the time of Mr. Whitney's decease, was 661; from that period to the present, 132.

From the gathering of this church, in 1746, to the present time, seven persons only have sustained the office of deacons, two of whom yet survive.

The two first deacons of this church were Jonathan Livermore and Matthias Rice. Deac. Livermore resigned, October 2d, 1782; died April 21, 1801, aged 100 years and 7 months. Deac. Rice died February 13, 1764, aged 58 years. Deac. Rice was succeeded by Paul Newton, who resigned May 8, 1795, and died May 18,

1797, aged 79. Deac. Livermore was succeeded by Seth Rice, who resigned April 30, 1807, and died Jan. 2, 1815, aged 77. Deac. Newton was succeeded by Isaac Davis, who resigned Nov. 18, 1825, and died April 27, 1826, aged 77. Deac. Rice was succeeded by Nahum Fay, and Deac. Davis by Jonas Bartlett. Deac. Fay came into office June 14, 1807, and Deac. Bartlett, February 26, 1826.

The amount of the ages of the five deacons who have deceased, is 392 years, the average of which exceeds 78 years.

In giving the history of this town, it will be proper that we subjoin a brief notice of those persons who have distinguished themselves as its benefactors. It has already been mentioned that the land on which the meeting house stands, with the adjoining common, was the donation of Capt. James Eager, of whom an account was given in a former part of these sketches.

Mrs. Martyn, the mother of the Rev. John Martyn, at first, wholly supplied furniture for the communion table. Rabbi Judah Monis, formerly a Hebrew Instructer, in Harvard University, gave to this church a silver cup, also a large silver tankard, afterwards converted into two cups. Another silver cup was procured, with the joint legacies of Capt. J. Eager and Lieut. William Holloway. A silver tankard was given by Anna, relict of Deac. Matthias Rice. Another silver cup was given by Pelatiah Rice, and his son in law, Thaddeus Fay. Another by Capt. Gideon Tenny; and recently, one by the late Deac. Isaac Davis. An elegant Folio Bible, in 2 vols. for the use of the pulpit, was the generous donation of Joseph Foster, Esq. of Cambridge.*

* Rabbi Judah Monis was a native of Italy, born in 1683 or 1684. Of his parentage, and of the circumstances which led him to emigrate to America, we have no account. He was employed as an instructer in the Hebrew language, in Harvard University, about the year 1720, before his conversion to Christianity. At length, he was led to receive Jesus Christ as the true Messiah; and, March 27, 1722, was publicly baptised at Cambridge; the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Colman, of Boston, preaching a discourse in the College Hall on the occasion, from John, v. 46. In the preface to this discourse, the author says, that "it was prepared in obedience to the desire of the very Rev. Mr. Leverett, the present learned Head and President of the House where it was delivered, in case of the absence of the aged and venerable Dr. Increase Mather," who, he adds, "if his years had permitted him, would have presided and served on so great a solemnity." "As to Mr. Monis himself," Dr. Colman writes, "it must be confessed that he seems a very valuable proselyte. He is truly read and learned in the Jewish Cabbala, and Rabbins, a Master and Critic in the Hebrew: He reads, speaks, writes, and interprets it with great readiness and accuracy, and is truly *didaktichos, apt to teach.* His diligence and industry, together with his ability, is manifest unto many who have seen his Grammar and Nomenclator, Hebrew and English; as also his Translation of the Creed and Lord's Prayer; the thirty nine articles of the

APPENDIX I. Containing a list of persons who were heads of families in this place before or soon after it became a separate Pre-

Church of England, and the Assembly's shorter Catechism into Hebrew; and he is now translating the larger Catechism." On the same occasion, Mr. Monis also delivered a discourse from Ps. cxvi. 10, entitled "The Truth," which was printed, with a Preface written by Dr. Increase Mather. This was followed soon afterwards by two other discourses from the same text, the first entitled "The Whole Truth," the latter, "Nothing but the Truth." These three discourses, with that of Dr. Colman, were printed in Boston, for Daniel Henchman, and "sold at his shop, over against the old Brick Church, in Cornhill, 1722."

Mr. Monis continued in his office as an Instructer in Hebrew forty years, till the infirmities of age rendered him incapable of performing its duties. After the death of his wife, in 1761, he left Cambridge and removed to Northborough to reside in the family of Rev. Mr. Martyn, who had married a sister of his wife. Here he remained till the time of his death, which happened, April 25, 1764, at the age of 81 years. As he had no children, he bequeathed the principal part of his estate, which was considerable, to the family in which he resided at his death. The sum of £46 13s. 4d. was distributed among seven of the neighboring ministers; and about £126 was left as a fund, under the direction of a Board of Trustees, the interest of which was to be devoted to the relief of indigent widows of deceased clergymen. The Board of Trustees consists of the ministers of the following churches: The church in Northborough; the first church in Salem; first in Cambridge; the new north in Boston; and the first church in Hingham. The fund now amounts to $400, the interest of which is distributed annually among four widows of deceased clergymen.

The following is the inscription on Mr. Monis' Grave Stone.

"HERE LIE BURIED THE REMAINS OF
RABBI JUDAH MONIS,
Late Hebrew Instructer,
At Harvard College, in Cambridge;
In which office he continued 40 years.
He was by birth and religion a Jew,
But embraced the Christian faith,
And was publicly baptised
At Cambridge, A. D. 1722,
And departed this life
April 25th, 1764,
Aged eighty one years, two months,
and twenty one days.

A native branch of Jacob see,
Which once from off its olive broke;
Regrafted from the living tree, Rom. xi. 17. 24.
Of the reviving sap partook.

From teeming Zion's fertile womb, Isai. lxvi. 8.
As dewy drops in early morn, Ps. cx. 3.
Or rising bodies from the tomb, John, v. 28. 29.
At once be Israel's nation born. Isai. lxvi. 8."

Lieut. Wm. Holloway, of whose family an account has been given, was for many years, one of the leading characters in this town. He died Jan. 6, 1760, aged 71.

Deac. Matthias Rice was a grandson of Edward Rice, one of the origin-

cinct, in 1744. The second column contains the names of the persons who now live on or near the same house lots.

Those to whose names this mark (†) is prefixed, have descendants of the same name now living in Northborough.

John Brigham.	Mr. Holbrooks Saw Mill.
Samuel Goodenow, } Samuel Goodenow, Jun. }	Gill Bartlett.
David and Jonathan, sons of } Samuel Goodenow, Jun. }	Deac. Jonas Bartlett, Gill Bartlett.
Nathaniel Oakes,	Jacob Peirce.
Simeon Howard, Sen.	Near the Hearse House.
† Gershom Fay, Sen.	Near Asa Fay's House.
Thomas Ward,	Asaph Rice.
Oliver ? Ward, (1)	Jonathan Bartlett.
Deac. Isaac Tomblin,	Widow of the late Deac. Davis.
Hezekiah Tomblin,	On Tomblin Hill.
Ephraim Beeman,	Samuel Dalrymple.
Joseph Wheeler,	On Ball's Hill.
Simon Rice,	Near Ephraim Barnard's.
† Daniel Bartlett, (2)	Deac. Jonas Bartlett.

None of the above, it is believed were heads of families in this town so late as 1744.

The following are the names of the fifteen persons who paid the highest taxes in 1749, taken from the Town Record, Vol. I. p. 27.

Lieut. Wm. Holloway,	Stephen Williams, Esq.
James Eager, Jun.	John Fisk.
Capt. James Eager,	Do.
Deac. Matthias Rice,	Windsor Stratton.
Peletiah Rice,	Ephraim Barnard.
Samuel Gamwell,	Capt. Prentice Keyes.
† Jacob Rice, (3)	Asaph Rice,
† Jotham Bartlett,	Gill Bartlett.
Timothy Fay,	Capt. Henry Hastings.
Josiah Bowker,	Nathan Green.
† Jesse Brigham, (4)	Henry Brigham.
†Bezaleel Eager, (5)	Col. Wm. Eager.

al proprietors of Marlborough. He lived on the farm now owned by Jonah Brigham. He died without children, Feb. 3, 1764, aged 58.

Peletiah Rice was a son of Peter Rice, of Marlborough, and lived on the farm now in the possession of Ephraim Barnard. He left no sons; his two daughters, Thankful and Sarah, were married respectively, to Thaddeus and Adam Fay, sons of Gershom Fay. He died April 7, 1775, aged 81.

Deac. Isaac Davis was born in Rutland, in this county. His father, Simon Davis, was a son of Simon Davis, who removed from Concord to Rutland. Rev. Joseph Davis, the first minister of Holden, was another son of Simon Davis, Sen. Deac. Davis removed to Northborough during the Revolutionary war, and has been, for a long succession of years, one of our most distinguished citizens. His first wife, the mother of his children, was a daughter of the late Dr. Samuel Brigham, of Marlborough, who was married to a daughter of Dr. Benjamin Gott, whose wife was Sarah, a daughter of Rev. Robert Breck, the second minister of Marlborough. Deac. Davis died April 27, 1826, aged 77. During his last sickness, he directed his family to procure at his expense new linen for the Communion Table, a direction with which they cheerfully complied.

Silas Fay,	Capt. Henry Hastings.
Thomas Billings,	Col. John Crawford.
John Oakes,	Joel Gassett.

The following twelve names were added, in 1752.

†James Ball,	Edward B. Ball.
Cornet Simeon Howard,	Nahum Fay, Esq.
† Nathan Ball,	Nathan Ball.
† Josiah Rice,	William Maynard.
† Gershom Fay,	Benjamin Rice.
† Samuel Allen,	Samuel Allen.
John McAllester,	Hollon Maynard.
Deac. Jonas Livermone,	David Dinsmore.
Thomas Goodenow,	Stephen Howe.
Seth Hudson,	Near Ephraim Barnard's.
George Oakes,	Luther Hawse.
† Seth Rice, Sen:	Calvin Hastings.

To the above list the following names may be subjoined.

John Martyn, Jun.	Benjamin Munroe.
Zephaniah Briggs,	Capt. Joseph Davis.
† Deac. Paul Newton,	Martyn Newton.
† Col. Levi Brigham, (6)	Winslow Brigham.
† Samuel Wood, Sen. (7)	Samuel Sever.
†Thomas Warren, and his son †Eliphalet Warren, (8)	Abel Warren.
Jonathan Hayward, and his son Gideon Hayward,	Lowell Holbrook.
†Jonathan Bruce,	Samuel Dalrymple.
Joshua Townsend,	John F. Fay.
† John Carruth,	Joseph Carruth.
† William Babcock,	David Mahan.
Josiah Goddard,	Silas Bailey.
Solomon Goddard,	Jonas Babcock.
Silas Rice,	Benjamin Flagg.
Samuel Gamwell, Jun.	Reuben Babcock.
William Carruth,	Daniel Smith.
George Smith,	Do.
Joshua Child,	On the South Road.
Warren,	Do.
Capt. Timothy Brigham, now living,	Oliver Eager.

NOTES.

Brief notices of several persons whose names are found in the foregoing list.

1. Oliver ? Ward. I understand that a farmer of the name of Ward, was the first settler on the farm of Jonathan Bartlett, and I conclude that his name was Oliver from the circumstances that, in 1710, forty three acres of land were laid out to Thomas and Oliver Ward "on Woody Hill, near the upper end of Cold Harbor, north side of the brook, next John Brigham's meadow."

2. Daniel Bartlett, was a son of Henry Bartlett, who emigrated from Wales and settled in Marlborough, in the latter part of the seventeenth or beginning of the eighteenth Century. He was the common ancestor of all of that name in this town. His sons were Jotham, settled in this town, grandfather of Gill Bartlett; Daniel, settled in Rutland; Jonathan, father of

Jotham and Jonathan, in this town; John, in Princeton; Isaac, in Holden; and Jonas, father of Deac. Jonas B. in this town. A brother of Daniel settled in Western or Brookfield, probably the Benjamin Bartlett, whose daughter Mary, born 1701, was the first child born in Brookfield, whose birth was recorded. (1 Hist. Col. 1, 267.)

3. Jacob Rice, son of Jacob Rice of Marlborough, first lived a little south of the dwelling house of Doct. Stephen Ball, afterwards removed to the house now owned by his grandson, Asaph Rice. He was the father of John Rice, of Shrewsbury; Jacob, minister of Brownfield, Maine; and Amos, now living in this town. The brothers of Jacob were Amos and Obediah, of Brookfield, and Gershom, of Marlborough. Jacob Rice died, July 29, 1788, aged 81.

4. Capt. Jesse Brigham, son of Jonathan Brigham of Marlborough, was the father of Artemas, and Capt. Tim. Brigham, the latter of whom is now living in this town. Jesse Brigham died, Dec. 8, 1796, aged 87.

5. Capt. Bezaleel Eager, came from Marlborough to the place where his grandson, Col. Wm. Eager now lives. Two brothers, Abraham and Capt. Benjamin Eager, came about the same time to Shrewsbury, and were among the first settlers of that town. Their father or grandfather was from Concord; Bezaleel Eager, died Oct. 31, 1787, aged 74.

6. Col. Levi Brigham, son of David Brigham of Westborough, was the father of the late Judge Brigham, and of Winslow Brigham now living in this town. Col. Brigham was chosen July 10, 1775, to represent this town in the Assembly to be convened at the meeting house in Watertown, the 19th of that month. He died Feb. 1, 1787, aged 71.

7. Samuel Wood came from Sudbury, and set up the first fulling mill in this town. He was the father of the late Abraham and Capt. Samuel Wood, who lived together on the same farm now in the possession of Samuel Sever.

8. Thomas Warren, from Watertown, was the father of Eliphalet, who left many descendents in this town and in other places.

APPENDIX II. Referring to page 134. The Grants for house lots were made 26th November. 1660, and were in the following proportions.

	Acres.		*Acres.*
Edmund Rice	50	Richard Ward	18
William Ward	50	John Woods	30
John Ruddock	50	John Maynard	23
Thomas Goodenow	32	Peter King	22
Joseph Rice	32	Benjamin Rice	24
Samuel Rice	21	A Minister	30
Christopher Bannister	16	Peter Bent	30
Thomas King	39	John Bellows	20
William Kerley	30	Abraham How	25
Solomon Johnson	30	Thomas Goodenow Jun.	20
Richard Newton	30	John Rutter	30
John Howe, Sen.	30	John Barrett	18
John Howe Jun.	16	John Rediat	22
Henry Kerley	19½	A Smith	30
Richard Barnes	16	Joseph Holmes	18
Thomas Rice	35	Samuel How	16
Andrew Belcher	20	Henry Axtell	15
Obadiah Ward	21	John Newton	16
Edward Rice	35	38 house lots,	992½ acres.

NOTES.

Brief notices of several persons whose names are found in the foregoing list.

Edmund Rice was probably the father of Edmund Rice, one of the first settlers of Westborough, whose children Silas and Timothy were taken by the Indians and carried into captivity. If so, he was the great grandfather of the late Deac. Seth Rice of this town. He was one of the selectmen of Marlborough, in 1661.

Wm. Ward was one of the first deacons of the Church at Marlborough, and had a house lot assigned him on the south side of the road opposite the Rev. Mr. Brimsmead's. He was one of the selectmen in 1661. He was the grandfather of the late Col. William Ward, of Southborough. He was probably also an ancestor of the late Maj. Gen. Artemas Ward, of Shrewsbury. There were, however, three persons of the name of Ward, viz. William, Obediah, and Richard, to whom house lots in Marlborough were granted at this time, (1662.) From the following inscription on a grave stone in the old burying ground in Marlborough, it would appear that the person to whom it belongs, was born before either of the New England colonies was planted. "Here lyes the body of Elizabeth Ward, the servant of the Lord, deceased in 87 year of her age, December the 9 in the year of our Lord 1700.

John Ruddock, was one of the selectmen of Marlborough, also a recorder or clerk in 1661, and a deacon of the church in 1689.

Of Thomas Goodenow, Richard Newton and John How, some account has already been given. Thomas Goodenow and John How, were selectmen in 1661, as also were Thomas King and Solomon Johnson, the latter of whom was afterwards a deacon of the church.

The name of Andrew Belcher, occurs in Dr. Holmes' History of Cambridge, (1. Hist. Col. Vol. VII. 28, 34,) who quotes from the Town Records the following: "The townsmen granted liberty to Andrew Belcher, to sell beare and bread, for entertainment of strangers, and the good of the town." This was in 1652. Whether this is the same person whose name is found among the proprietors of Marlborough eight years afterwards, I am unable to say. A Capt. Andrew Belcher is said to have given to the first parish in Cambridge, the bell now in use, in the year 1700. I am informed too that the name of Andrew Belcher, Esq. frequently occurs in the records of the Gen. Court; that he was for some years an assistant, a member of the King's Council, and often a member of the Legislature; and that, in 1689, he was a messenger to treat with the Indians at Albany, &c. It is not improbable that he lived for a time at Marlborough, and that he afterwards returned to Cambridge, and sustained the several offices abovementioned.

Edward Rice was a deacon of the church in 1689; and was, as has been mentioned, the grandfather of the late Deac. Matthias Rice, of Simon Rice, and of Jacob Rice, of this town. It is not improbable, taking into view the connexion between Sudbury and Concord, that the Richard Rice, who is mentioned as one of the first settlers of Concord, in 1635, (1. Hist. Col. Vol. 1, 240.) was the common ancestor of all of that name in this part of the country, and the person, who, as tradition says, left eight sons, who all lived to a very great age. The Rice family has been remarkable for longevity.

Two of this name, Cyprian and Elisha Rice, who went from Marlborough, died at Brookfield in 1788, the one in the 98th, and the other in the 99th year of his age. Hist. Col. 1. 273.

Of the other persons mentioned in the foregoing list, I have no account to give. Maj. Peter Bulkley was mentioned, page 138, as one of the persons who assisted in procuring the Indian deed of Marlborough. This was undoubtedly a son of Rev. Peter Bulkley, who was the first minister and one of the first settlers of Concord, then called Musketaquid. Rev. Mr. Bulkley, had a number of children who were much distinguished in their day. One of his sons, Gershom, was married to a daughter of President Chauncey, and was the father of John Bulkley, minister of Colchester, Conn.

Maj. Peter Bulkley, was in 1678–9, an agent for the Corporation of the Massachusetts Bay, respecting the Narrhagansett country, (1 Hist. Col. V. 221) and in the first year of James II. was appointed by the King's commission, one of the Council, of which Joseph Dudley, Esq. was President. 1. Hist. V. 245.

It appears from the State Records, that a grant of 1000 acres of land in the Nipmug or Kittituck country, was made to Maj. Bulkley, by the General Court, for some service he had performed for the public.

Appendix III.

Ministers of Marlborough.—Rev. William Brimsmead, the first minister of Marlborough, was a native of Dorchester, a member of the class that graduated at Harvard College, in 1648, but who left with several others in the preceding year, without a degree, in consequence of dissatisfaction with the regulation then introduced of requiring a residence of four years instead of three. He was employed as a preacher, at Marlborough, as early as 1660; was afterwards, in 1665, after several months probation, invited to settle in Plymouth, with an offer of £70 salary and firewood, which he declined, and was ordained at Marlborough, October 3d, 1666.

John Cotton, Esq. of Plymouth, in his history of that town, (1760) speaks of him as "a well accomplished servant of Christ."

He preached the Election Sermon, 1681, on Jer. 6. 8. which was printed. His salary in Marlborough was from 40 to £45 per annum.

It appears from the following record that he was unable to supply the pulpit during the latter part of his life. "May 6, 1700. Voted, to send to Cambridge for a candidate for the ministry."

"July 12. Voted unanimously, by church and town, to invite Mr. Swift to help with our present pastor, if God shall raise him up."

At the same time a committee was chosen "to procure a place to remove their minister to, and to provide him a nurse." (Mr. Brimsmead had no family of his own to provide for him, having never been married.)

"December 16, 1700, a committee was chosen to treat our Rev. pastor, with reference to the arrears yet in his account that concern the town, and to bring an account of all that is behind, from the beginning of the world to the end of November, 1699."

Mr. Swift having negatived the call, Mr. Joseph Morse was invited to settle as colleague with Mr. Brimsmead. Rev. Mr. Brimsmead died on Commencement morning, July 3d, 1701, and was buried in "the old grave yard,"* where a large unlettered stone was erected to his memory, which still remains, and is almost the only memorial that remains of "this venerable servant of Jesus Christ."† Soon after the death of Mr. Brimsmead, Mr. John Emerson, afterwards settled in Portsmouth, N. H.‡ was invited to be the minister of Marlborough, but declined the invitation.

At length, after a long controversy respecting Mr. Emerson, which was carried on with a good deal of asperity, June 1st, 1704, Mr. Robert Breck, son of Capt. John Breck, of Dorchester, graduated at Harvard College, in 1700, received an invitation to take the pastoral charge of the society, which he accepted, and was ordained, October 24th, 1704.

Rev. Mr. Breck remained pastor of the church at Marlborough

* The following inscription is placed over the remains of the first person who was buried in the old burying ground in Marlborough.

"Capt. Edward Hutchinson aged 67 years, was shot by treacherous Indians, August 2d, 1675, died, August 19th, 1675."

Capt. Edward Hutchinson was mortally wounded by the Indians, August 2d, at a place called Menimimisset, about four or five miles from Quaboag (Brookfield) to which place he had been sent with twenty horsemen by the Governor and Council, for the purpose of conciliating the Nipmucks, to many of whom he was personally known. It appears that they conducted themselves towards him with the basest treachery. The Sachems had signified their readiness to treat with the English, but it must be with Capt. Hutchinson himself. Having been conducted by a treacherous guide to the place where two or three hundred of the Indians lay in ambush, they suddenly issued from a swamp, fell upon Capt. Hutchinson, and his unsuspecting associates, shot down eight of the company, and mortally wounded three more, among whom was Capt. H. himself. Capt. Hutchinson was a son of the celebrated Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, who occupies so conspicuous a place in the early history of New England. He was also the great grandfather of Thomas Hutchinson, Governor of the Massachusetts colony and the historian of Massachusetts. Savage's Winthrop, 1. 249.

†Rev. Mr. Brimsmead's house stood in a lot of land on the west side of Ockoocangansett hill, adjoining to said hill. Tradition says, that he uniformly refused baptism to children who were born on the Sabbath.

‡Rev. John Emerson was first (1703) ordained as pastor of the church at Newcastle, New Hampshire, dismissed in 1712, and installed pastor of the South Parish in Portsmouth, March 23d, 1715, died June 21st, 1732, aged 62. Mr. Emerson was a native of Ipswich and was graduated at Harvard University, in 1689. 1. Hist. Col. X. 53.

twenty seven years, and died, January 6, 1731, in the midst of his days and usefulness, at the age of forty nine years, universally lamented.

A handsome monument was erected to his memory, near that of his predecessor, containing the following inscription in Latin, to which we subjoin, at the request of many, a translation into English.

INSCRIPTION.

Reliquiæ terrestres theologi vere venerandi Roberti Breck sub hoc tumulo conferuntur. Pars cœlestis ad coelum myriadum angelorum et ad spiritus justorum qui perfecti sunt abiit.

Ingenii penetrantis, quoad vires naturales, vir fuit amplissimæ mentis et judicii solidi, una cum animi fortitudine singulari. Quoad partes acquisitas spectat, in linguis quæ doctæ præsertim (*audiunt?*) admodum peritus; literarum politarum mensura parum communi instructus; et, quod aliis fuit difficile, ille, virtute ingenii proprii et studiis coarctis, feliciter subegit. In omnibus Theologiæ partibus versatissimus, et vere orthodoxus, Scriba ad regnum cœlorum usquequaque institutus. Officio pastorali in ecclesia Marlburiensi, ubi Spiritus Sanctus illum constituit episcopum, per XXVII annos, fideliter, sedulo, pacifice, multaque cum laude, functus est.

Doctrinæ Revelatæ, una cum cultu et regimine in Ecclesiis Nov-Anglicanis instituto, assertor habilis et strenuus. Ad consilia danda in rebus arduis, tum publicis tum privatis, integritate conspectus et prudentia instructissimus. Sincere dilexit amicos, patriam, et universam Christi ecclesiam.

Denique pietatis, omnis virtutis socialis, et quoad res terrenas moderaminis, exemplar.

In doloribus asperis ægritudinis ultimæ patientia ejus opus perfectum habuit; et, si non ovans, expectans tamen et placide discessit.

Natus Decem.is 7 mo 1682.
Denatus Januar. 6 to 1731.

Prophetæ ipsi non in seculum vivunt.

TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE.

Beneath this stone are deposited the mortal remains of the truly reverend Robert Breck. His immortal part hath ascended to heaven to join the innumerable company of angels and the spirits of the just made perfect.

He was by nature a man of acute intellect, capacious mind and solid judgment, together with singular mental resolution. As to his attainments, he was eminently skilled in the learned languages, familiar beyond the common measure with polite literature; and,

what to others was difficult, he by the powers of his mind, and close application to study, accomplished with ease.

Thoroughly versed in every department of theology, and truly orthodox in sentiment, he was a scribe in every respect instructed unto the kingdom of heaven.

The duties of the pastoral office in the church at Marlborough, over which the Holy Ghost had made him overseer, he discharged faithfully and assiduously, in peace and with great reputation, for twenty seven years.

He was a skilful and able asserter of the doctrines of revelation and of the worship and discipline of the New England Churches.

He was a counsellor in cases of difficulty, both public and private, of distinguished uprightness and consummate prudence.

He was a sincere lover of his friends, his country, and the whole Church of Christ.

In a word, he was a model of piety, of every social virtue, and of moderation in regard to earthly things.

In the severe pains of his last sickness, his patience had its perfect work; and his departure, if not in triumph, was full of hope and peace. Born Dec. 7th, 1682—Died Jan. 6th, 1731.

"Even the prophets do not live forever."

Rev. Robert Breck was regarded as one of the eminent ministers of his day. He preached the Election Sermon in 1728, from Deut. v. 29, which was printed. Another of his printed sermons, which is still in existence, was preached in Shrewsbury, on the 15th of June, 1720, and was the first sermon preached in that town.* His only other publications, so far as they have come to our knowledge, were two excellent sermons, addressed particularly to young persons, and which were preached to his people in 1728, on occasion of a large accession to his church of about fifty persons. The former is on the danger of religious declension, from Luke ix. 61, 62: the latter was preparatory to the observance of the Lord's Supper, from Leviticus, x. 3.

Three funeral discourses preached at Marlborough, on occasion of his death, one by Rev. John Swift of Framingham, another by Rev. John Prentice, of Lancaster, and the third by Rev. Israel Loring of Sudbury, were published, and are now extant.

It appears, from a note to Mr. Prentice's discourse, that during

* See the history of Shrewsbury, in the May Number of this Journal, p. 16, by Andrew H. Ward, Esq.

I am informed by Rev. Wm. B. Sprague, of West Springfield, that he has in his possession a copy of this discourse.

the sickness of Mr. Breck, October 15, 1730, a day of fasting and prayer was kept in Marlborough for his recovery; "several of the neighboring ministers being present and assisting on that solemn occasion."

A respectful and able notice of Rev. Robert Breck was given in the Weekly Journal, No. CC. for Jan. 18, 1731, which is subjoined to the discourse of Mr. Prentice; and another well written memoir was published in the Boston Weekly News Letter, No. 1408, for Jan. 21, 1731, which forms an appendix to Rev. Mr. Loring's discourse.

"His temper was grave and thoughtful, and yet cheerful at times, especially with his friends and acquaintance; and his conversation entertaining and agreeable.

"In his conduct, he was prudent and careful of his character, both as a minister and a christian; rather sparing of speech, and more inclined to hear and learn from others.

"His house was open to strangers, and his heart to his friends; and he took great delight in entertaining such, as he might any ways improve by, and treated them with good manners.

"The languishment and pains he went through before his death were very great; but God enabled him to bear the affliction with patience and submission.

"He was interred on the 12th with great respect and lamentation, and his affectionate people were at the charge of his funeral; and it is hoped they will continue their kindness to the sorrowful widow and orphans."*

Rev. Robert Breck had a son of the same name, who was graduated at Harvard University, in 1730, was ordained as minister of Springfield, Jan. 26, 1736, and died April 23, 1784, in the 71st year of his age.†

The father was married in Sept. 1707, to Miss Elizabeth Wainwright, of Haverhill, who died, June 8, 1736. They had six children, two of whom died before their father. Of those that survived him, Robert was minister of Springfield; Sarah was married to Dr. Benjamin Gott, of Marlborough; Hannah was married to Rev. Ebenezer Parkman, of Westborough; Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, was married to Col. Abraham Williams, of Marlborough, and

* Rev. Mr. Breck lived on or near the same spot on which Rev. Mr. Packard's dwelling house was afterwards erected.

† See Rev. Wm. B. Sprague's Historical Discourse, delivered at West Springfield, Dec. 2, 1824, p. 78, 80.

died two years before her father, Jan. 1729. The name of the other child that survived the father was Samuel, who was a surgeon in the army during the French war. He married at Springfield, and died, 1764.

The following account of the successors of Rev. Mr. Breck, was furnished principally by Rev. Seth Alden, of Marlborough.

After an interval of nearly three years from the death of Mr. Breck, viz. Oct. 1733, Rev. Benjamin Kent was ordained as the minister of Marlborough, and on Feb. 4, 1735, was dismissed by mutual consent. After his dismission, Mr. Kent brought an action against the town for the recovery of his settlement, which the court allowed him. The town appears to have suffered much about this time from intestine divisions, which prevented the settlement of a minister for the five years succeeding the dismission of Mr. Kent.

At length, June 11, 1740, Rev. Aaron Smith received ordination, and was dismissed by reason of ill heath, April 29, 1778. After his dismission, Mr. Smith went to reside with Rev. Mr. Bridge of East Sudbury, who married his daughter, and died there.

Rev. Asa Packard, from Bridgewater, succeeded him, and was ordained, March 23, 1785, and April 10, 1806, was dismissed, in consequence of an unhappy division in the town relating to the location of a new church. This division led to an Ecclesiastical Council called by the Church, which resulted, Oct. 24, 1806, that in case the minority should obtain an act of incorporation as a distinct society, then, without breach of covenant, those members of the church who should unite themselves with such Incorporation, might become a regular and distinct church, by the name of the West Church in Marlborough.

After much opposition, such inhabitants did obtain an act of incorporation on the 23d of Feb. 1808, by the name of the second parish in Marlborough; and on the 5th of the following month, a church was duly ordained. Over this church and society, Rev. Asa Packard was installed, March 23, 1808, and remained their Pastor till May 12, 1819, when, by mutual consent, he was regularly dismissed. Mr. Packard now resides with his family in Lancaster.

Rev. Seth Alden, from Bridgewater, a graduate of Brown University, 1814, was ordained as the successor of Mr. Packard, Nov. 3, 1819, and still remains their Pastor.

Over the East Church and first parish, Rev. Sylvester F. Buck-

lin, from Rehoboth, now Seekonk, a graduate of Brown University, 1805, their present Pastor, was ordained, Nov. 2, 1808.

Besides the two Congregational Societies above mentioned, there is a society of Universalists in the town, without a stated Pastor, and a small society of Methodists. The person at present preaching with the former is Massena B. Ballou; with the latter, Jared Haskins.

The preceding sketches have been made up from materials collected from various sources. The aged fathers of this and some of the neighboring towns have been consulted as opportunity offered; and several of the descendants of the early settlers of Marlborough, have kindly furnished many valuable papers relating to the events of former days, and which have been handed down from father to son, for three or four successive generations. The writer would particularly acknowledge his obligations to Rev. Messrs. Bucklin and Alden, for the aid they have rendered him; as also to Mr. Silas Gates for the use of the copious and very valuable records in his possession, inherited through his wife (daughter of the late George Williams) from her grandfather Col. Abraham Williams, who, for many years, was the clerk of the proprietors of the English Plantation of Marlborough.

The writer has also had opportunity to consult the books of records of the proprietors of the Indian Plantation, now in the possession of Mr. John Weeks.

He has aimed at accuracy; but fears, where so much rests on mere tradition, or memory not less treacherous, that many errors besides those of the press, have become incorporated in the history. For these he craves the indulgence of his readers.

ERRATA.

Page 11, end of first paragraph—The new meeting house was erected in 1805, the old one taken down in 1809; page 15, 22d line from top, for Dochester read Dorchester; page 25, 20th line from top, for Asa Goodenow read Thomas Goodenow; page 26, 9th line, for Pond read Road; page 27, 1st line, for Marlborough read Northborough; on the same page, the 2d paragraph of the note should be in the place of the first, and for Simon read Simeon; page 28, 1st line of the note, for persons read garrison; page 39, in 4th line of 2d note, for Simeon read Simon; page 43, in 3d note, read, James and John Eager were sons, and Cutler and Martyn sons-in-law of John Eager, Jr. and grandsons of Capt. John Eager.

3 2044 010 532 9

THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.

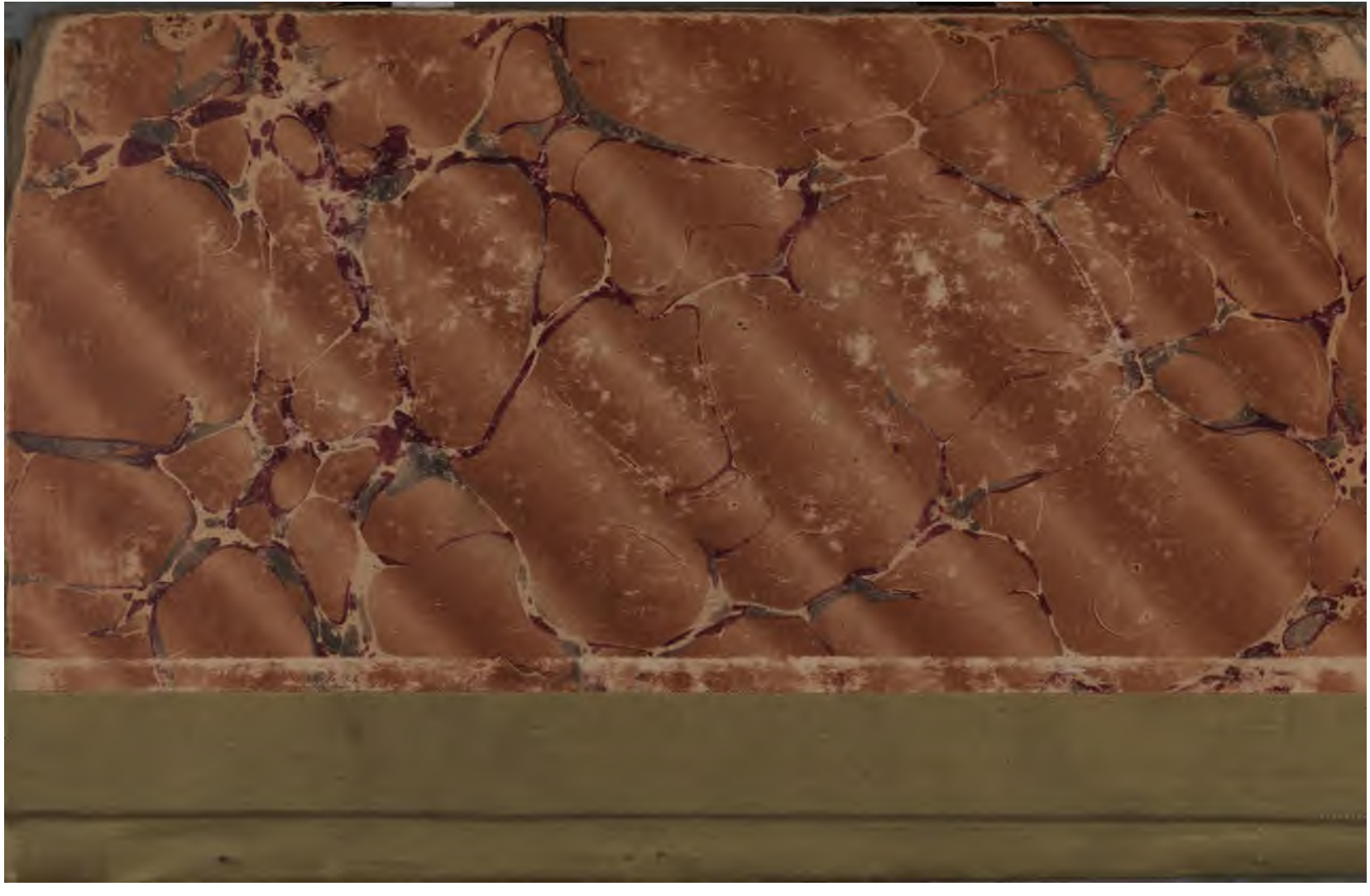
CANCELLED

WIDENER

JUN 2 8 1996

BOOK DUE

WIDENER

FEB 10 2005

BOOK DUE